

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 26, 2020

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

Present: Supervisor Robert McKeon
Councilmember William O'Neill
Councilmember Christine Kane
Councilmember William Hamel
Councilmember Jacob Testa
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney Christine Chale

Supervisor McKeon called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor McKeon made the following announcements:

- The Ascienzo Foundation is sponsoring the 8th annual Senior Spring Social on Wednesday, March 18 from 3:45 – 5 p.m. at the High School cafeteria
- VFW corned beef & cabbage dinner on March 17 from 4 – 7 p.m.
- Regarding the corona virus, the CDC alerted us that we should be prepared for it to make its way around the United States. He reached out the County Executive Marc Molinaro to have a coordinated plan should the virus reach the area. He encouraged residents to sign up for notifications on our Town website.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments. There were none.

CENSUS PRESENTATION

Supervisor McKeon welcomed John Penney who was in attendance to educate the public on the census.

John Penney, Chair of Dutchess County Complete Count Committee, wants to raise awareness about the importance of people filling out the 2020 census. After the count is done, political lines are redrawn based on those numbers. Another reason is that money is on the line that affects federal programs. If a Town is undercounted, it will hurt financially. In mid-March most of us will get an invitation in the mail to fill out the census. For the first time ever, it can be done on line. Census forms are not sent to PO Boxes, and he explained the time line. If residents don't respond by a certain time, field representatives will go to homes. Importantly, a lot of people are reluctant because of privacy. The census is completely confidential and information cannot be shared with anyone, not even the Federal government. Searching Google for the Complete Count Committee will provide information. He asked if there were any questions. Councilperson Testa asked about students that live on college campuses.

Mr. Penney answered that students get counted at the college for two reasons. They are there longer than they are at home, and it is where they are there on April 1st. If on campus, the college will count them, if off campus they will be sent a form at the address to be filled out. He spoke to the librarian at the Red Hook Library and people can go there for help. They are also encouraging agencies to tell their clients.

Linda Keeling questioned how information is verified.

Mr. Penney said to some degree there is an honor system. We want an accurate count.

Supervisor McKeon thanked him for the presentation.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MODIFICATION OF GRANT BUDGET LWRP

Supervisor McKeon explained the resolution.

Paula Schoonmaker explained some of the requirements needed.

**RESOLUTION 2020 #9
TOWN OF RED HOOK
DATED: FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT
MODIFICATION TO GRANT CONTRACT WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REGARDING LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the Town was notified of the award by the New York State Department of State (NYS DOS) of for a Grant No. T1000964 in the amount of \$42,440 for the update of the Town's local waterfront revitalization plan, (the "Project"), subject to a match by the Town in an equal amount, a portion of which may be provided through in kind services; and

WHEREAS, a proposed Contract Modification to Grant No. T1000964 has been submitted to the Town, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of Town of Red Hook (by the favorable vote of not less than a majority of all members of the Board), as follows:

1. The Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Supervisor, or in his absence or unavailability the Deputy Supervisor, to execute a Contract Modification Form with NYS DOS in substantially the form on file with the Clerk, with such changes as shall be approved by the Supervisor and which do not affect the substance thereof.

2. The Supervisor of the Town, the Town Clerk and its officers, employees and agents are hereby authorized and directed for, and in the name and on behalf of the Town of Red Hook, to do all acts and things required or provided by the provisions of the Grant Contract. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook on February 26, 2020 at 7:30 p.m., local time.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor McKeon, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

PRESENT:

Supervisor Robert McKeon

Councilmember William Hamel

Councilmember Christine Kane

Councilmember William O'Neill

Councilmember Jacob Testa

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT: Christine Chale

The following resolution was offered by McKeon, seconded by Kane, to wit;

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 9
DATED: FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT
MODIFICATION TO GRANT CONTRACT WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REGARDING LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION UPDATE**

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Robert McKeon	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember William Hamel	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember Christine Kane	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember William O'Neill	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember Jacob Testa	VOTING: Aye

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER – WINTER STABILIZATION
STONY BROOK CULVERT**

Supervisor McKeon explained the change order to the culvert and explained the resolution.

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION 2020 #10
FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER FOR THE TOWN OF RED
HOOK STONY BROOK ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Town has entered into a contract with Fastracs Rentals, Inc. for the “Town of Red Hook Stony Brook Road Culvert Replacement Project” in the Town of Red Hook (the “Project”), based on plans and specifications (“Plans”) prepared by Crawford & Associates Engineering, PC. (The “Town Engineer”), with a contract amount of \$195,200; and

WHEREAS, a Change Order with a net increase of \$8,759 for stabilization of the site for winter was submitted by Fastracs Rentals, Inc. for a new total contract amount of \$203,959, which Change Order has been approved by the Town Engineer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook that the Town Board hereby authorizes and ratifies the acceptance and execution by the Supervisor of the Change Order of Fastracs Rentals, Inc. for the Project.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook on February 26, 2020 at 7:30 p.m., local time.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robert McKeon, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

PRESENT:

Supervisor Robert McKeon
Councilmember William Hamel
Councilmember Christine Kane
Councilmember William O’Neill
Councilmember Jacob Testa

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT: Christine Chale, Attorney for the Town

The following resolution was offered by McKeon, seconded by Hamel, to wit;

**RESOLUTION NO. 10
DATED: FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER FOR THE TOWN OF RED
HOOK STONY BROOK ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Robert McKeon	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember William Hamel	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember Christine Kane	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember William O’Neill	VOTING: Aye
Councilmember Jacob Testa	VOTING: Aye

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

REORGANIZATION

Supervisor McKeon informed the Board that Richard Wambach resigned from the Economic Development Committee.

BOARD REPORTS

Water District #1 – all items are in normal range; water test requirements are on-going.

Replacement inventory will be ordered in 2020, there are five outstanding work orders, a timer has been installed on the pump, probe meters will be replaced with meters that can be read without probe, and output parameters will be specified when ordered.

Zoning Board of Appeals – In January there was one public hearing and one review meeting. In February there was one public hearing and one review meeting.

Dog Control – In January there was one loose dog caught without incident.

Justice Court – Justice Mansfield’s 2019 yearly report was summarized as follows: 493 V&T, 67 Penal, 4 Civil, 1 Small Claim, 2 Local Law, 2 ABC Law, 1 Ag. & Markets, 1 Judgment, 1 Environmental Conservation, and 2 Public Health cases. Total of \$46,684.50 in fines, fees and surcharges collected. There were 4 comp. DWI, 12 comp DWAI, and 11 pending DWI’s.

Justice Triebwasser’s 2019 yearly report was summarized as follows: 390 V&T, 40 Penal, 4 Civil, 3 Small Claim, 1 Tax Law, 3 Transportation, 5 Ag. & Markets, 1 Judgment, 1 NYCRR, 1 Environmental Conservation, 2 Navigation and \$39,970.00 in fines, civil fees and surcharges collected. There were 18 completed DWI’s, 2 completed DWAI’s, and 8 pending DWI’s.

Building & Zoning – In February there were 18 permits issued, 19 inspections, 15 CO/CC’s issued, no complaints and \$4217.00 in revenue.

Highway Department – In summary, highlights included 2 high visibility Chevron signs installed on Amherst Street in College Park, replaced 3 faded signs on Norton Road with high visibility “Curve Ahead” signs and “25 mph” advisory speed signs, cut brush and low hanging tree limbs in preparation for summer paving work on Aspinwall Rd., Kelly Rd. and Whalesback Rds., cut and chipped brush on other Town roads, completed safety training in-house with the Highway Department Crew on various topics such as “Lock-out, Tag-out”, hazardous chemical identification, blood-borne pathogens, forklift safety and eye and hearing protections, and performed service and maintenance on various pieces of equipment. Potholes caused by the extreme freeze/thaw cycles of the past month are appearing daily and the cold patch crew fills them on a regular basis. They are preparing specifications for the chassis, body and plow fit up for the new 6-wheel plow truck that is on the purchasing plan for 2020. Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke added information regarding her interest in planting native habitat pollinators. She received help from Cornell Cooperative Extension and Laurie Husted, Chair of the Town Conservation Advisor Committee on the subject. She will work on a comprehensive plan with design, photos and costs over the next few weeks and hopes to meet with the CAC to ask them to keep their eyes out for grants. A pollinator pathway would connect many towns along the Hudson. If the Board agrees, this will be another link in a very important chain.

Red Hook Police Department – In January there were 90 incidents, 2 arrests and 16 tickets issued.

Disaster Preparedness Committee – Emergency Plan updates have been made and will be distributed. A table top exercise drill will take place on April 9 from 4 – 6:30 at a location on the Bard campus. It will be a weather-related event and training is highly recommended. The level 100 FEMA course can be taken on line. Various plans for training were listed. In new business, locations that need generators will be identified, getting people to sign up for text messages from Town during an emergency will be worked on and the next meetings are scheduled for March 10 and June 16 at 4:30 p.m.

Economic Development Committee – There was discussion about the state of the real estate business, and introductions of Jacob Testa, new Town Board member. The third version of a sewer design project in the Village was given and discussion about the Village Board modifying zoning from Highway Business to General Business to include the old GLF/Red Hook Electric and Zitz’s gas station as well as Firehouse Lane to enable connection to the Town’s TND. There was an AirBnB discussion regarding the lack of transparency by the ITF, etc; set up separate independent Short-Term Rental (STR) task force.

Intermunicipal Task Force – Continued to discuss the topic of Short-Term Rentals (STR) for the Town, amending language of previous drafts of proposed regulations, preparatory to meeting with the Town Planner.

LWRP Advisory Committee – The mapping company contract was signed and work began on the maps for Section II. They discussed and reviewed polices as written in the 1995 LWRP. Members discussed how to revise the policies and present them in an update. Paula Schoonmaker will contact the grant administrator at the Department of State for guidance.

Recreation Commission – Fishing contest is planned for April 11 but because of construction at the park, it may be necessary to cancel or modify the contest. Availability of the snack bar kitchen is also uncertain. The Rec. Commission purchased \$400 worth of hatchery fish to support the contest. Uncertainty of the availability of the park may impact the interscholastic spring softball and baseball practices and games. The Red Hook School athletic director has been notified of the possibility. The excavation of the park appears to be over; the drainage system is installed; layers of fabric and stone will be the next phase. Lighting needs for the pickleball courts must be determined, electrical service in the snack bar storage room was completed, various upgrades are being planned. Recreation Park West development is ongoing, hiring a director and assistants for the Summer Recreation program must begin now. BOH requirements must also be addressed. Once directors are hired the process of hiring assistants can begin. Use of the Towns website for sign ups and information for parents is being worked on. The Recreation Department continues working on many issues regarding the Recreation Parks East and West. The RHCS D Girls Softball Tournament may have to be cancelled in April.

Red Church Cemetery Committee – Waiting to hear from Leonard Breen at the Division of Cemeteries about when to expect to receive the grant check for \$32,535.94. The cemetery has been monitored all winter, roads were plowed three times this winter, Veterans Services was contacted regarding two new flags and solar lights for the poles, there is now a listing on the Towns website for the Red Church Cemetery Committee. The Tree Committee trimmed trees along the eastern fence and many other issues were discussed. Emily Majer was asked for her professional opinion on what should be done to restore the structure at the cemetery. A 2020 project list was compiled.

Senior Services Committee – Discussing the two nine passenger electric vans that the Town has sought grant money for. Also discussed planning events to publicize the vans and find out what people in the senior community need. Finalizing work on an updated Senior Bulletin is in the works.

Tree Preservation Commission – they discussed brush piles that have not been removed, a large stump on Pitcher Lane was removed, a stand of Ailanthus was cut down, weed whacking and pruning was completed, planting sites for six new trees have been staked, seven trees for the spring planting/Arbor Day Celebration have been ordered and details for the Arbor Day Celebration were discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor McKeon shared the following correspondence:

-An email from New York State Department of State Office of Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure regarding the F-2019-1290 Annandale Micro-hydro Project request for comments. They ask that comments get back to the DOS by March 26.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments.

Emily Sachar asked if someone could explain in detail the process that the Intermunicipal Task Force is going to follow.

Councilperson O'Neill explained that on Friday the ITF will meet with the Planner for the Town.

Emily Sachar asked who the Planner is.

Councilperson O'Neill responded Michelle Greig of Greenplan. After the meeting there will be one or two meetings to formalize ideas, then they will have the EDC set a date for the next informational meetings where the Task Force will present proposed regulations in respect to short-term rentals. Copies of those amendments will be given to the EDC beforehand so they can enter into discussion at that informational meeting. After that there will probably be a decision as to whether or not the EDC will hold another informational meeting. If not, the Task Force will propose to the Town Board, language to amend the zoning law to regulation STR's. If that is received by the administration it is up to the Town to look at it. At some point, it will be referred to the Town Board for consideration for a public hearing. Those public hearings will probably be extensive. After that the Town Board will be asked to vote.

Emily Sachar asked the role that Michele Greig plays at the Friday ITF meeting and what is the conversation that will take place.

Councilmember O'Neill explained that Michele is the professional planner for the Town of Red Hook. She gives advice as to what is happening in other jurisdictions. They may have clients in other areas they are preparing rules and regulations for. That kind of information is exchanged. The Task Force will present to the Planner what the thinking has been up to this point. The Planner then basically gives us advice. It is the start of dialog.

Emily asked if she (Michele Greig) is like an expert witness.

Councilmember O'Neill answered no, she is a professional planner that knows more about zoning and planning than the average member of the Task Force or any committee of the Town. We do pay them by contract and it is for advice and direction. They draft a law, once we make proposals. The Attorney for the Town may get involved before it goes for the final draft.

Supervisor McKeon explained we usually limit public comment to three minutes. He wants to allow her an opportunity. To summarize, the Task Force is advisory in nature. When they feel they have something to recommend to the Town Board, they do so. Often times it requires a consultant in formulating recommendations and that is where they are right now. The Task Force will do at least one more information session to make sure we hear more.

Emily Sachar is trying to understand if this action is going to take place on Friday or is the Task Force getting information. Will they make specific recommendations, if so, what are they?

Councilmember O'Neill said the Planners final statement will be to tell the community what this new legislation proposal is. That would be the time to confront and understand the reasoning.

Councilmember Kane commented that Councilmember O'Neill said it earlier that this Friday meeting is discussion. They will be bringing in the Planner to begin discussion.

Councilmember O'Neill gave an example of the Task Forces discussion. He explained the process.

Supervisor McKeon explained the difference between an info-session and a public hearing.

Linda Keeling still hasn't heard anything about the St. Margaret's Committee.

Supervisor McKeon said more time is needed for new committees. It should be a few months from now. We are trying to re-energize and look at the composition of the committee. It's not just its historic nature. The interior needs updating, how do we move forward and put the property to its best use?

Linda Keeling asked about other committees and their reports.

Supervisor McKeon believes the Town's website is up to date with reports. We heard reports from committees that submitted them.

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilmember Hamel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, O'Neill, Kane, Hamel, Testa
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk