

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 6, 2010**

Present: Mayor David Cohen, Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell, Trustee Jay Trapp and Trustee Brent Kovalchik.  
Absent: Trustee David Seymour.

Mayor David Cohen opened the meeting at 7:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Jay Trapp made a motion to accept the minutes from November 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Brent Kovalchik seconded. All were in favor.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk Cole read the Treasurer's report for the month of November: Fund balances: General \$256,690.35, Water \$42,410/24, T & A \$11,052.42, Resource Recovery \$9,247.42, Petty Cash \$91.22, Village Green \$2,736.82, Hardscrabble \$4,654.65, Health Insurance Deductible \$3,862.34. Monthly Expenses: \$751,818.25 (\$540,000.00 of which was payment on the Village Hall renovation BAN), water \$25,168.66, T & A \$11,052.42, Resource Recovery \$4,370.26. Clerk Cole also reported: unpaid taxes that were sent to the County totaling \$21,433.19. Grant money from Greenway was received and deposited into the General fund and should have been deposited into the Water fund. These changes will reflect on the next treasurer's report. CD's totaling \$38,742.82 is due to mature on 12-15-10. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to approve roll over these CD's. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

**POLICE**

Chief Truitt submitted a request for the Village Board to hire two new part time police officers, Joseph Murray and Charles Petrone, both of whom were present. Mr. Murray has completed his 60 hours of field training. Background investigations have been completed on both candidates with recommendations for hire as probationary Village of Red Hook Police Officers. Both candidates are recent graduates of the Zone 14 Police Basic Training Program and upon their appointment they will finalize their certification process while field training with our Department. Both officers will start at the newly established officer in training rate (approximately 65 % of the entry level for full certified officer) until they receive full certification by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell made a motion to hire Joseph Murray and Charles Petrone as part time police officers with one year probation. Trustee Jay Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Cohen read the Police report for the month of November: 141 incidents; 104 UTT'S & 15 arrests. Mayor Cohen commended the Police Department for their efforts in two recent situations where an arrest was made within 72 hours.

**RESOURCE RECOVERY**

Trustee Blundell submitted the resource recovery report for the month of November: 3.51 T commingle @ \$117.41; 6.92 T cardboard/newspaper, 16.55 T garbage @ \$1,432.03. Red Hook Natural Health Store will be selling garbage tags, which is open on the weekends. This will hopefully encourage residents to use Village services for garbage and recycling.

## **CELEBRATIONS**

Deputy Mayor Blundell announced a very successful Winterfest. 1-200 people attended the tree lighting. Deputy Mayor Blundell would like to thank Robin Rogers, Kim Gomez, Kathy Trieble, Richard Totman and Melissa Ottman for their help and support, as well the Town of Red Hook.

## **PERSONNEL**

Deputy Mayor Blundell is working on an employee manual.

## **WATER**

Mayor Cohen read the water report in the absence of Trustee Seymour: 2 bacteria samples were taken and sent to lab, master meter in system was replaced, meter replaced for Larry Hughes, Outside readout was replaced for Caroline Rider, water was turned off at Knollwood Commons as requested – 1 building only, 2<sup>nd</sup> shutoff not found, average daily usage for the month 221,800

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

Trustee Trapp read the planning and zoning report for the month of November: 9 building permits, 1 certificate of occupancy, 2 certificates of compliance, 3 municipal searches, 16 inspections. \$965.00 was collected in fees. Trustee Trapp would like to welcome Craig Thorpe-Clark to the planning board. There is still an open position available on the zoning board.

Trustee Trapp would like to encourage all to remember “Hugs from Home” for the Holidays.

## **HIGHWAY**

**Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly Highway report as follows:**

1. Leaf and brush pick-up will end on Friday, December 10, 2010. Residents are encouraged to separate brush (twigs, branches) from leaves and to rake leaves into rows, not piles, to facilitate pick-up.
2. The Village landfill will be closing for the season on Saturday, December 11, 2010.
3. Street identification signs, and their related costs, continued to be debated. According to Federal Highway Administrator Victor Mendez (11-29-10 ABC News), “the Federal Highway Administration will announce on Monday (12-6-10) a new period of public comment on the new rules...that could lead to easing on the guidelines. Previously, the FHWA mandated that all street identification signs be required to contain 4” upper and

4. lower case letters on an 8 inch blade mounted 9 feet high on “U” channel break-away posts. Signs not meeting this requirement are to be replaced before January 9, 2012.
5. The Village has received maps indicating NYSDOT catch basin and culverts on Route 199 and Route 9. Catch basins, culverts and related items replaced by the NYSDOT after January, 1970 are the responsibility of the NYSDOT. Three copies of the documents, prepared by A.F. Dickson on 1-2-85, are currently filed with the Village of Red Hook.
6. The RHV Highway Department will be limiting the use of propane to heat the vehicle storage garage during the winter months. Engine block heaters, on-demand pay load loading/unloading pre-delivery vehicle warm-up and timed/sequenced pre-heating of the garage will be tested to lower fuel costs for the Highway Department.
7. The balance of the Scrap Metal Recycling Program Account is \$1,062.34. Since inception of this program in September, 2007, \$7,449.50 has been generated. Proceeds from this program go toward purchasing tools/equipment for the RHV Highway Department and is supplemental to the General Funds allocated to the Highway Department. Residents interested in donating scrap metal can contact Dan Streib at 758-8600.

**CPF/ZRC/SHARED SERVICES & RED HOOK TOGETHER**

**Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly reports as follows:**

**Community Preservation Fund (CPF) Advisory Board – Monthly Report  
November, 2010 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Village Representative/Member**

A meeting was held on November 4, 2010. The following items were discussed.

- Village Parcel Mapping and lists of properties that can be considered for funding, based on CPF criteria, have been completed. Final review to include Cultural Resources, Aquifer Protection, Scenic Corridors, correct parcel identification numbers, etc. are being completed.
- Village/Hamlet rankings are being integrated with the current Red Hook Town Agricultural parcel rankings.

**Red Hook Town Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) – Monthly Report  
November, 2010 – Brent Kovalchik – RH Representative/Member**

There was no meeting held during the month of November, 2010. The regularly scheduled meeting was cancelled in observance of Veteran’s Day.

**Red Hook Town Shared Service Committee – Monthly Report  
November, 2010 – David Seymour and Brent Kovalchik – RH Village representatives/Members**

There was no meeting held during the month of November, 2010.

**Red Hook Together – Monthly Report**

**November, 2010 – Ed Blundell and Brent Kovalchik – RHV Representatives/Members.**

A joint meeting with Red Hook Together, Northern Dutchess Communities that Care and the Red Hook Education Foundation was held on November 19, 2010 at the Reem Kayden Science Center on the Bard College Campus.

The meeting was an introduction to each group with the intention to explore intersections for collaborations. Members of the various community groups will re-convene in 2011, after meeting individually, to discuss potential collaborations.

Missions of the various groups represented include:

- **Red Hook Together**

- \* The mission of Red Hook Together is to blend cultural, agricultural, educational, business and tourism endeavors to create a sustainable community. Bard College, Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce, Red Hook Central School District, Town of Red Hook, Village of Red Hook and Tivoli work together to share a vision that enhances the lives of those who live, work and study in Red Hook. The goal is to strengthen the relationship among people involved in the community, striving to preserve resources and continue to develop businesses.

- **Northern Dutchess Communities That Care**

- \*The mission is to foster collaborative efforts focused on coordinating a network of services and organizations with the goal of improving the quality of life in the communities with an emphasis on family and youth.

- **Red Hook Education Foundation**

- \*The mission is to foster efforts with Bard College and Municipalities to promote curriculum collaboration, after school programs and engagement within the communities. The goals of the Foundation include leveraging assets of various not-for-profit and private individuals to build endowments for Red Hook Central School District student's scholarships and enrich educational programs at RHCS D Schools.

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**VILLAGE GREEN**

Trustee Brent Kovalchik read the monthly Village Green report as follows:

1. There were no Village Green Committee meetings held during the month of November, 2010.
2. The current balances of the Village Green Committee related budget accounts as of October 26, 2010 are as follows:
  - Community Beautification – Contractual Expenses  
Contractual Expenses (#8510.4)  
Balance ..... \$ 1,383.75
  - Shade Tree – Contractual Expenses (#8560.4)  
Balance ..... \$ 2,304.53

- Village Green Checking Account  
Balance ..... \$ 2,736.82

3. Unhealthy and/or trees with the potential to cause harm to street traffic and pedestrians were removed from the following locations:

- 19 Church Street (1 maple) \*
- 43 Fraleigh Street (1 maple) \*\*
- 18 Phillips Street (1 maple) \*\*
- 54 Garden Street (2 spruce) \*\*
- 7383 South Broadway (1 maple) \*\*
- 39 East Market Street (1 pine) \*

\*trees recommended to be removed by the VGC

\*\*trees removed for safety/utility line maintenance by Central Hudson

**RESOLUTION # 16-2010. NO PARKING** – Public Hearing was held prior to the Village Board. Trustee Blundell does not agree with bullet 2 and would like the parking left as it currently is, which is 30’ south on the west side. Not in favor of this change. Trustee Kovalchik feels these no parking regulation are needed as written in the resolution. Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to approve resolution # 16-2010. Trustee Trapp seconded. Mayor Cohen was in favor. Trustee Blundell was not in favor.

**RESOLUTION # 15-2010. HUDSON VALLEY GREENWAY – PATTERN BOOK AND ARCHITECTURAL GUIDES** – Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to approve the Village of Red Hook to apply to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the Greenway Communities Grant Program for a project entitled Red Hook Village Pattern Book and Architectural Guides to be located in the Village of Red Hook. Trustee Trapp seconded this motion. All were in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Deputy Mayor Blundell made a motion to switch payroll dates to semi-monthly instead of bi-weekly. This switch will save two payrolls a year, which will be a savings of approximately \$300.00 and the savings of the Treasurer’s time to process payroll. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

Clerk Cole submitted a motion for the March 15, 2011 elections. There will be no registration day; elections will be held at the Red Hook Fire House, Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 between 12 noon and 9 pm. Offices to be held are as follows: Mayor, 2 Trustee’s and Court Justice. Deputy Mayor Blundell made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Trapp seconded. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Douris of Phillips Street questioned Trustee Trapp as to why 39 Garden Street had not yet been cleaned of garbage and if CEO Sam Harkins was required to patrol the Village looking for violations. Trustee Trapp responded with Mr. Harkins does not patrol looking for violations but it would be a good

idea if at least once a month to do so. Mr. Douris also stated that landlords must be held accountable for their tenants actions. Kathy Douris stated that they have submitted several letters of complaint and wondered if we have received a formal response on the technical zoning issues raised. Trustee Trapp read into the record the response that was submitted from Attorney Victoria Polidoro in regard to 39 Garden Street and the question of non-conforming uses. Ms. Douris also complained of debris left from tenants of Mr. Stagias blowing on her property. Mr. Stagias is aware and is allegedly doing nothing to rectify this problem. Ms. Douris feels landlords should be made accountable for their property and tenants and if the property is not properly maintained then they should be fined. Trustee Trapp is aware and will discuss this issue with CEO Sam Harkins and respond to Ms. Douris.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Lolly Humphrey of St. Paul's Church is once again requesting water hook-up so the Church can sub-divide. To date the Health Department will not allow the Village to have any further hook-ups until we find more water sources and confirm our ability to meet demand. Ms. Humphrey asked since several large sub-divisions that were approved for water hook-up have gone bankrupt then why can't just a few homeowners get approval? Judy Carr from Maizeland Rd. was also present and is waiting for water. The Church alleges they lost the sale of a property due to the delay in water approval. Robert Flores of C. T. Male stated that the county has been given some new information and moving forward as quickly as possible. Reverend Ness is pleased in the way the Village Board is moving forward. Trustee Kovalchik stated that we have water but need to dig new wells.

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

Trustee Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Cole  
Clerk/Treasurer