

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
January 20, 2011**

Present: Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell, Trustee Brent Kovalchik & Trustee Jay Trapp

Absent: Mayor David Cohen & Trustee David Seymour

Workshop meeting was opened by Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell at 7:00pm.

**#1 – SEQRA – Village of Red Hook Water System Improvements Project**

Trustee Jay Trapp asked for the Affidavit of Publication for the Public Hearing. Secretary Lara Hart indicated that the Affidavit was received by the Village of Red Hook from the Kingston Daily Freeman. Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell advised that the Clerk did advertise public hearing and affidavit of publication will be attached to the minutes.

Deputy Mayor introduced Robert Flores of C.T. Male. Mr. Flores indicated that the coordinated review was sent to all involved agencies and no objections were received objecting to the Village of Red Hook being lead agency. Mr. Flores indicated that a motion would have to be made naming the Village of Red Hook as lead agency.

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell advised of the review of Part 2 – Project Impacts and their Magnitude – Responsibility of Lead Agency.

Trustee Brent Kovalchik indicated that the preliminary engineering report did go through review and evaluation from USDA – they made comments that were addressed, and they feel this is sufficient enough to be submitted with the application. Trustee Trapp asked if DCWWA was involved? Trustee Kovalchik indicated they are not involved. Mr. Flores indicated that they did receive a copy of the report and they did submit a letter endorsing the project.

Mr. Flores indicated that the Public Hearing to be held was to evaluate Part 2 of the Project Impacts and their Magnitude – Responsibility of Lead Agency.

**Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell made a motion to declare the Village of Red Hook as lead agency. Seconded By Trustee Trapp. All in favor.**

**Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:09pm. Deputy Mayor Blundell advised that the public meeting will remain open for 15 minutes. Seconded by Trustee Jay Trapp. All in favor.**

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell indicated that there was no one present from the public at this time.

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell continued with review and reading aloud Part 2 of the Project Impacts and their Magnitude – Responsibility of Lead Agency.

In reading Part 2 - Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell indicated that at page "1" – Impact on Water – there was a small to moderate impact in construction on land where the depth to the water table is less than 3 feet. Mr. Flores indicated that the concern is that if you are working in an area where the ground water is less than 3 feet than you will have to de-water, so that when you de-water you are disposing of the water properly.

Page "4" – Impact on Aesthetic Resources – Deputy Mayor Blundell asked that with reference to the existing elevated water storage tank will be replaced with a new elevated water storage tank - would it be as high as the current one? Mr. Flores indicated that the height would be the same because that controls the pressure in the Village. The only variable there would be the volume of the tank.

Deputy Blundell asked with reference to cell tower service would there be phase when the Village cannot rent this space? Mr. Flores indicated that a temporary tower is erected for services and then it will be moved back, but it could be decided that the temporary tower become a permanent tower.

Mr. Flores indicated that with regard to Page "4" – Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources – that we will have to go through SHPO in phase 1 and phase 2 as needed. Trustee Brent Kovalchik advised that that cost has been put into the budget of the project. Trustee Trapp asked if OPRHP interactive mapping has been noticed? Mr. Flores advised they got noticed of the lead agency and project review. Mr. Flores indicated that their response was to perform phase 1a – archeological investigation.

Deputy Mayor asked about "Page 5" – Impact on Transportation – some local roads will be impacted by the construction activities associated with the installation of water main within road rights of way. Deputy Mayor Blundell asked if it would Route 9? Mr. Flores indicated that there will be temporary closing of streets; detours. Deputy Mayor Blundell asked about road repairs? Trustee Trapp advised that is part of the impact. Trustee Kovalchik indicated that this was in the preliminary engineering report – budget line item of restoration of all Village roads.

Trustee Trapp asked Mr. Flores that when Neg. Dec. is declared will there be language discussing the yes that it can be mitigated, and that it will be included into the final circulation. Mr. Flores indicated that yes they will handle the publication.

Public Hearing remained open.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Deputy Mayor Blundell advised the Board that the Village is planning a retirement party for officer Reginald Moore for serving 41 years as a police officer with the Red Hook Police Department. Party will be held on February 18, 2011 at 6:00 at the Red Hook Firehouse. Deputy Mayor Blundell advised that all Village employees have to retire upon reaching age 70. Proclamations will be prepared and presented at party.

Deputy Mayor Blundell advised that he and Trustee Kovalchik had a joint meeting with Town of Red Hook officials Sue Crane, Harry Colgan, Robert Latimer regarding concept of merging the Town and Village Highway Department. It was discussed that accounting studies would need to be obtained. The plan is to publicize this with the public with a joint meeting. Deputy Mayor indicated he would prefer that the Village held their regularly scheduled meeting and then go somewhere with the Town for the joint meeting. Trustee Kovalchik indicated that the purpose of this meeting is to look at applying for a grant from the Department of State, and advised that there has been a lot of work done on the Shared Services Committee in compiling data and checking the needs assessment of not only the facility itself, but what the actual cost would be if we were to combine both departments due to the different services that the Village and Town provide.

Trustee Jay Trapp indicated that there are many questions on this issue, such as do you have two separate entities? Do you have two supers? Do you lose personnel? Trustee Kovalchik said many questions have been discussed and he has spoken with Highway Superintendant Dan Streib who has no problems with the merge. Trustee Kovalchik indicated that the Town is non-union; Village is Union; there are many service/financial issues to be discussed with regard to a merge. Trustee Kovalchik inquired as to the municipalities remaining separate, would the Village have to pay rent to have our facility on Town property? Deputy Mayor Blundell indicated this would be in the cost analysis and we could possibly swap services – to reduce costs to the Village.

Deputy Mayor Blundell said we would seek a grant in order to have the study done because there is no budget line to do the study on our own. Deputy Mayor Blundell also spoke on having a third party consultant, someone more financial oriented.

**At 7:36pm Deputy Mayor Blundell indicated that the Public Hearing has closed.**

Deputy Mayor Blundell advised that the Village of Red Hook would need to formally affirm themselves as SEQR Lead Agency. Mr. Flores of C.T. Male indicated that the Board will need to refer back to Part I and check off Part 2 (A) – indicating that the project will not result in any large and important impacts.

**Deputy Mayor Blundell made a motion that the Village Board has reviewed Part 2 of the SEQR Negative Declaration and that a negative declaration will need to be declared and the Village Board has reviewed Appendix A of the SEQR - Full Environmental Assessment Form indicating that the project will not result in any large and important impacts. Seconded by Trustee Trapp. All in favor.**

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell signed and dated Appendix “A” SEQR – Full Environmental Assessment Form.

**Trustee Jay Trapp made a motion to declare Negative Declaration for the Village of Red Hook Water Systems Improvement Project. Seconded by Trustee Kovalchik. All in favor.**

**CDBG – Linden Avenue:**

We are at the final stage of the grant - Town of Red Hook is acting as Lead Agency. The Town of Red Hook did pass a resolution that they would not pay more than 20% of construction cost to the engineer. Engineer cost did come in \$300.00 under the block grant amount – but there still remains retainer money for road striping (for when weather is warmer and can be completed). Deputy Mayor Blundell indicated that Voucher will need to signed and submitted. Trustee Trapp has reviewed 3 different block grants and has inquired as to what would happen if we went over our budgeted cost? Trustee Kovalchik indicated all data is a rough-mark up of what is going on. Voucher was signed to be submitted.

**Community Preservation Fund (CPF)**

Trustee Brent Kovalchik presented data which showed every parcel in the Town, Village of Red Hook and Village of Tivoli of the Community Preservation Project Plan and that this data has been prepared by Volunteers of the CPF Advisory Board. This is a Town initiative, and the Village is part of it because we are part of the Town. Trustee Kovalchik said of the entire fund, 75% or 80%, will be used for the number one priority, which is Ag land protection. All Ag-lands are within the Town. A percentage of the funding is to be dedicated for non-agricultural properties that pertain specifically to the Village, such preservation of cultural resources, wetland protection, well field protection, etc.

Tivoli is different than the Village of Red Hook because portions of Tivoli are designated a historic district. The Village of Red Hook has 4 properties on the State Registry of Historic Places. When Trustee Kovalchik went through the properties, gateway properties surrounding the Village and extending beyond the Village borders were also considered. The gateway properties would receive an additional score on the priority list. CPF monies are for preservation not restoration. Historic properties cannot use the money for restoration, only Preservation, such as purchasing developing rights, or facade easements, property easements for wetland protection, etc. The law that was passed in Albany is very specific as to what the monies can be used for. Trustee Kovalchik will bring in a copy of the law. Trustee Trapp asked what the Village could use the funding for? Trustee Kovalchik said for preserving park land, such as Abraham's Park and securing easements to protect the well field sites. Trustee Kovalchik indicated that funds could be used to secure easements of the pond. Property owners could either donate their rights to the pond, or the CPF funding could be used to purchase easements from the property owner's of the pond. CPF funds cannot be used to restore the pond. Trustee Trapp asked if a historic property could use the funds to change the color of a house or pave their driveway? Trustee Kovalchik indicated that the funds could not be used in that manner, but if a property were protected by an easement, it would then be within the public realm and could be eligible for grant funding from State or National sources.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Deputy Mayor Blundell asked the Board for their input as to office staff receiving a 2-hour minimum

for attending all board meetings (Village, Zoning, Planning). The Board agreed to grant office staff a 2-hour minimum for village, zoning & planning board meetings.

Trustee Trapp brought to the Boards attention the issue regarding the parking from the Winter Market and how it is affecting the business at the Red Hook IGA.

Deputy Mayor Blundell asked the Board for their approval to appoint election inspections for the upcoming election. Jay Trapp advised that he thought the Board appointed election inspectors on the Names were on the appointment list. Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell made a motion to appoint Mary Kelly, Joan Swift and Arleen Harkins as Election inspectors. Seconded by Trustee Trapp. All in favor.

Deputy Mayor Ed Blundell made a motion to grant office staff a 2-hour minimum for village, zoning & planning board meetings. Seconded by Trustee Trapp. All in favor.

Deputy Mayor Blundell made a motion to adjourn Workshop at 8:10pm. Seconded by Trustee Kovalchik. All in favor.

Submitted by,

Lara Hart, Deputy Clerk

