

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
SPECIAL MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2016**

Present: Mayor Blundell; Deputy Mayor Kovalchik; Trustees Zacharzuk. Trustee Trapp was absent.

7:00 PM

Mayor Blundell opened the meeting at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing - 2016-2017 Budget – Blundell reconvened and continued the public hearing.

Mayor Blundell stated he had to travel out of the area for the last monthly meeting. He followed the comments made at that meeting with input from the Deputy Mayor. He met with members of Panda last Friday. The Village must stay under a tax cap of 0.12 %. The Village has worked hard, with a deliberate plan to maintain service and over time get off the NYS Comptroller's "susceptible to fiscal stress" list. Coming into office he knew the village finances were weak and together with the Board devised a plan and managed it to get the finances back on track. We did this while staying within the tax cap over those years and maintained services. The key was intense concentration on effectiveness and efficiencies. We also developed the GEP last year which enables our residents to get the Tax Freeze Credit rebates. The current 0.12% cap means the Village has \$1,189 dollars available in a levy increase.

Mark Durand of Panda stated he met with Ed. There are 5 municipalities which contribute to Panda. The Town of Red Hook subscribers have increased and Village subscribers have decreased and contract amounts should be re-evaluated. Different sources of finances should also be found.

Bill Nieves stated all muni's should contribute Chris Klose asked for more time to meet and to discuss options.

MaryAnn Harvey also asked for more time.

George Beekman stated Time Warner franchise fees are down over 7 years. It's time to review the need for Panda.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to close the public hearing. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

## GENERAL BUDGET

Mayor Blundell opened budget discussion and review - currently the 2016-2017 budget is under the 0.12 % tax cap. The tentative budget had been submitted to the Clerk in the March 20 village law deadline but certain costs and revenues have been further developed. Health insurance costs have increased significantly and we have no other options for lower premiums; our plan to migrate our business accounts to M&T Bank for less fees did not materialize and Key Bank is reducing fees. Therefore the Village will stay with Key Bank.

## WATER BUDGET

Mayor Blundell stated current water upgrades are under way for 3.8 million. Funding is available from USDA.

The new budget reflects the planned and approved rate increases and makes a line available to start putting money aside for USDA payments on Phase 2.

## GARBAGE BUDGET

Garbage tag sales are holding. That budget amount will remain the same as last year but with some contributions toward common General Fund lines.

Blundell announced that all the input will be considered and the Board will meet in another planned workshop on 4/28/16 to make any final changes and vote on the budget.

## REORG- MEETING

Mayor Blundell began with the formal review of necessary and required statements. Law requires that Clerk/Treasurer Chiarella and Justice Triebwasser are bonded and this is done with our insurance policies.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to authorize the Village newspaper as the Kingston Daily Freeman, and River Chronicle as back up but the Chronicle is going monthly so not really feasible for most notices. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve official meetings as Monthly Board Meeting is the 2nd Monday and workshop meetings are the 3rd Thursday. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Procurement Police - remains the same. Board referred to our code section.  
Cell phone use - no abuse issues since we do not issue government owned phones.  
Internet usage - Village work only while on or systems.

Investment Policy - Update yearly

Annual workplace training – We train staff yearly with the assistance of our insurance company.

### **RESOLUTION 8-2016**

Employee Personal Cars/Mileage

Resolution dated April 21, 2016 authorizing the reorganization of Village Offices, municipal officials and employees

Whereas; the Village of Red Hook Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to Village officers and employees who use their personal automobiles while performing their official Village duties, at the current IRS rate per mile.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Red Hook is authorized to issue reimbursement to employees and municipal officials for mileage using a personal vehicle for Village duties.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to authorize resolution 8-2016. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

### **RESOLUTION 9-2016**

Employee attendance at schools and conferences

Resolution dated April 21, 2016 authorizing the attendance of Village Officials and municipal officials at schools and conferences, for the purpose of further training in Village duties.

Whereas; there is to be held during the coming official year a) the New York State Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Training School b) the New York State Conference of Mayors and Fall Training School for Fiscal Officers and Municipal Clerks; c) the New York State Conference of Mayors Public Works School, d) the Association of Towns Meetings; and

Whereas; attendance by certain municipal officials and employees at one or more of these meetings, conferences, or schools may benefit the municipality. Attendance is not authorized nor can reimbursement be applied for, unless the Mayor approves of the attendance in advance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the Village of Red Hook:

1. That the officers and employees of the Village of Red Hook are authorized to attend such meetings as NYCOM's Annual Meeting and Training School, NYCOM Public Works School, NYCOM Fall Training School, etc but must request and receive authorization beforehand.
2. This item above includes the Associations of Towns meetings/training.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve resolution 9-2016. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All are in favor.

Mayor Blundell stated Clerk/Treasurer Chiarella negotiated with Key Bank a savings of \$ 5,206 in bank fees and a significant reduction in future monthly service fees. Mayor Blundell made a motion to authorize Key Bank as the Village Official Bank. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell stated Board of Trustee's department responsibilities: copy of which is on file.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve Officer's and Officials - a copy of which is on file. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to re-appoint Acting Justice - Jeff Martin, Court Clerks Kathy Fell and Betsy Levy. Trustee Zacharuzk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to re-appoint Christopher Montalto as special prosecutor. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Planning/Zoning acting Building and Code Enforcer acting CEO Robert Flores. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Clark Kimble Deputy Building Inspector, Gary Beck as Deputy Building Inspector, DC Planning as Planning Consultant, & Rodenhausen, Chale as Attorney to Planning/Zoning. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Patrick Hildenbrand as Sergeant. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Michelle Zagorski as Consulting Comptroller. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor

Mayor Blundell made a motion to re-appoint McCabe & Mack as Village Attorney. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to re-appoint CT Male as Village Engineer. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following Police Officers: Travis Sterritt, Christopher Aderholdt, Tom D'Amicantonio, Kate Davies, Justin Bogdaffy, Christopher Fischer, James Simmons, Gregory Wagler, Jonathan Wilson, & Lara Hart as Police Department Secretary. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following Highway Department: Highway Foreman- Dan Streib, Highway fulltime-Jake Smith, Highway Part-time – Chris Coon and Ray Casivant. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Cynthia Chiarella to Register of Vital Statistics, Lara Hart – Deputy Registrar. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion.

Dog Warden – TBD

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following to the Zoning Board of Appeals: Chairman, George Beekman, Co-chair- Charles Eric Cuthell, Evelyn, Kreuger, Caroline Rider, Rebeckah Aronson. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following to the Planning Board: Chairman Beth Pagano, David Pearson, Ray Towle, Mark Mirando and Donald Hanson. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following to the Village Green Committee: Frances Uku, Kathy Pearson, David Pearson, Julianna Pearson, Brenda Cagle, Jeff Urbin, Dave Javsisas. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following to the Hardscrabble Committee: Matt Donohue, Karen Sipperly, Sue McCann, Julie Silverstein, Doug Strawinski, Bobbi Jo Forte, Katy Triebel, Emily Trapp, Kim McGrath. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint the following to the Library Board: Barry Ramage, Karen Sipperly, Maryelisa Blundell, Jill Hall, and Don O’Shea. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Mayor Blundell as rep to Time Warner. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to appoint Mayor Blundell to the Appeals Officer. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

#### OTHER BUSINESS;

Mayor Blundell made a motion to approve tax upgrades from Software Consultants for \$4500.00. This will be made in 2 payments - \$2250 in May and \$2250 after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded this motion. All were in favor.

- Local clean-up day is April 24
- Village Green tree planning is April 23<sup>rd</sup>

- Annexation update – Hoffman Farms – Dutchess County is not in favor of drilling new wells, discussion continues.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don Finn asked why is the building department office being re-designed?

Arleen Harkins also asked why the department was being redesigned. Mayor Blundell stated we are redesigning the building department and changing of the CEO/ZEO is a required part of the plan.

Mayor Blundell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. DM Kovalchik seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Chiarella

Clerk/Treasurer

