

**THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2017  
7:00 PM**

Present: Mayor Blundell, DM Kovalchik, Trustee Norris, Trustee Zacharzuk, Assistant Clerk Drewes.  
Absent: Trustee Trapp, Clerk/Treasurer Chiarella.

At 7:01 p.m., Mayor Blundell made a motion to open the meeting.

**RHFD:** Robert Streib and Rob Frye of the Red Hook Fire Department attended to share and review construction and renovation site plans for the fire house with the Board. Mayor Blundell questioned whether or not the proposed work would affect the Village's well behind the building, and Robert Streib confirmed that it would not. Mayor Blundell stated that the FD will have to present to the Planning Board, a separate legal entity, and that in the future more notice should be given to review site plans to comply with the 15 day rule. The mayor also suggested that the FD submit a grant to secure funding to help prevent potential well contamination. The Village reviewed the terms of the lease agreement with the Red Hook Fire Department and other renovation details provided by the FD. Mayor Blundell put forth a motion to consent as landlord to move forward and continue the lease, and to sign the Planning Board application. Trustee Norris seconded this motion. All were in favor.

The FD contract with the Village was reviewed further. Mayor Blundell inquired about anticipated vehicle purchase time. Mr. Streib commented that the FD budgeted for \$60,000 last year, and ended with expenses much greater, due to unforeseen issues. The FD rejected the Village's request to align the negotiations of Town and Village contracts. They still do not want to create one contract. Trustee Norris questioned why the FD feels that the Village should share more of the financial burden than the Town. Mr. Streib answered that the Village should make up for several years of 0% rate increases with the contract. Trustee Zacharzuk questioned why the FD has not sought grants to help offset costs. Mr. Streib and Mr. Frye commented that the FD does not have the time for the grant application process. Trustee Kovalchik questioned again the ratio Village, Town & Bard College calls. Mayor Blundell stated that while the board considers fire protection essential, the Village must be frugal due to the 2017 state tax cap of 1.15% and other budgetary limitations. Further discussion will be had after more board review.

Mr. Streib and Mr. Frye left the meeting at this time.

**USDA Form Completion** – Mayor Blundell reviewed a meeting that was held with USDA. As the Village prepares to close out on Phase II water, two documents will need to be signed in order to accept grant funds. Mayor Blundell would like to send them to Rich Olson at McCabe & Mack for professional review. All were in agreement.

At 9:00 p.m., Mayor Blundell made a motion to enter into executive session for personnel. Trustee Norris seconded the motion.

At 9:04 p.m., Mayor Blundell made a motion to end executive session and enter back into the regular meeting. DM Kovalchik seconded the motion.

At 9:05 p.m. DM Kovalchik made a motion to exit the meeting. Trustee Zacharzuk seconded the motion.

Submitted by,

Arie Drewes  
Assistant Clerk