

**Village of Red Hook
Village Board Meeting
October 3, 2005**

Present: Mayor Cohen, Trustee Seymour, Trustee Thayer, Trustee Gilfeather, Trustee Blundell
Mayor Cohen opened the meeting at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cohen asked the board to accept the minutes from 9-12-05 Public Hearing for the 2006 Dutchess County Community Block Grant – 9-12-05 Public Hearing 200-12 (1)c Townhouses and 9-12-05 Village Board. Trustee Seymour made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Gilfeather seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Cohen opened the meeting requesting Trustee Seymour to respond to the recent remarks made by Red Hook Concerns: Trustee Seymour stated that he and the Village Board are very troubled by the recent statements which were posted on the web site of Red Hook Concerns “Construction Glut” – Too many projects, no coordination, aquifer to be severely compromised – to quote – This is an insult to the Village Planning and Zoning Boards. Whoever wrote this article should put their name behind it. No one from this committee has ever attended a Village Planning Board, Village Zoning Board or any Village Board meeting. Their statements are incorrect and very inaccurate. Chairman of Planning Jay Trapp is a Senior Draftsman, a professional and very qualified to properly oversee the Village Planning Board as does Chairman Brent Kovalchik of the Zoning Board who is a registered architect. The Village Planning and Zoning Board members are all very educated, competent and very dedicated members of our community. Most of who are engineers, architects, and residents of the Village for many years. Also, all members who have been educated in planning and zoning issues, are always kept up to date with changes and have completed courses from Pace University Land Use seminars. The Village is a member of Greenway and always follows Greenway’s guidelines. The planning board also always consults with the Dutchess County Department of Planning for their input and approval. Quoted in this article were 50 units behind the Old Soap Factory which is incorrect – their application is requesting 20 units. Comments were made in regards to Anderson Commons concerning water drainage and the aquifer. The Village Engineer has reviewed this site for drainage. Dutchess County Department of Health has visited this site and both have agreed that the current site plan has followed all the needs for proper water drainage. The Perx property has been also been visited by the Dutchess County Department of Health (Roger Ackley) and County Executive Bill Steinhaus and refers to the Perx project as a Greenway Model. Trustee Blundell agrees with Trustee Seymour that these remarks were overstated. Trustee Thayer complimented both the Planning and Zoning Boards for a job well. The Village looks GREAT!

Trustee Seymour stated that this information will be released to the media in the form of a press release as soon as possible.

7:45 Mayor excused himself to attend a meeting at the Town Hall.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Seymour read the treasurer's report for the month of September:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 361,313.58
WATER FUND	43,269.56
TRUST & AGENCY	623.70
RESOURCE RECOVERY	1,690.83
PETTY CASH	50.00
VILLAGE GREEN	4,049.95

Bills to be paid: General Fund - \$ 59,583.70, Water Fund \$ 2,357.00, T & A \$ 1,306.05
Resource Recovery \$ 2,960.15.

Trustee Thayer made this in the form of a motion. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

POLICE

Trustee Gilfeather read the Police report for the month of September: 87 registered complaints, 55 uniform traffic tickets, 63 parking tickets, 10 accidents investigated, and 3 arrests

HIGHWAY

Trustee Thayer stated that 300 yards of sand need to be ordered. Red Wing is \$13.20 a yard – Rock City is \$ 13.00. Trustee Seymour made a motion to purchase from Red Wings since we have bought from them in the past. Trustee Thayer seconded.

Also, Trustee Thayer made a motion to purchase road salt as long as it is on state contract. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Thayer stated that the new garbage truck will be delivered within 2-3 weeks. The old truck is not worth much – Tivoli may rent the truck for their leaf pick up. Central Hudson removed some tree limbs from Fraleigh Street. Leaf pick up will begin more towards the end of the month. Footings for the new monument have been poured. Trustee Thayer asked the board to consider hiring a third full time highway laborer. To be discussed at a later time.

Trustee Thayer addressed the board purchase a leaf vacuum – Keil Equipment price is \$ 1720.00 Conway's is \$ 699.00. Trustee Seymour made this in the form of a motion with the stipulation that the Mayor approves of this purchase. Trustee Blundell seconded. All were in favor.

Planning and Zoning

Trustee Seymour read the planning and zoning report for the month of September: 6 building permits were issued, 4 certificates of occupancy, 4 municipal searches. \$ 624.44 was collected in fees in October.

Village Green

Trustee Seymour reported on 14 trees being planted. Approximately 26 trees will be taken down or pruned. Bids will be accepted and opened at the next Village Board meeting.

WATER

Trustee Gilfeather read the water report for the month of September: Two bacteria samples taken and delivered to lab, repair one water meter 36 East Market St, locate water line and raise shut off (Ruge's Auto Parts), Average daily usage: 292,000

GARBAGE

Trustee Blundell reported on refuse and recycling for the month of September: commingle 2.56T for \$ 51.20, cardboard .64 T for \$ 6.40, newspaper 3.42 T \$ 34.20, garage 21.97 T \$ 1757.60 – Also, Ulster County Resource Recovery is now charging a fuel surcharge.

Celebrations

Trustee Blundell announced that on Dec. 4th the Elmendorph will coordinate with the Chamber for Christmas celebrations.

Trustee Thayer made a motion to approve a resolution for local law to increase the income level For senior citizens tax reduction as follows:

ANNUAL INCOME	PERCENTAGE OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF EXEMPT FROM TAXATION
\$ 12,500 or less	50
More than \$ 12,500 but less than \$ 13,500	45
\$ 13,500 or more but less than \$ 14,500	40
\$ 14,500 or more but less than \$ 15,500	35
\$ 15,500 or more but less than \$16,400	30
\$ 16,400 or more but less than \$ 17,300	25
\$ 17,300 or more but less than # 18,200	20

Trustee Seymour seconded. All were in favor.
Clerk Cole was asked to put this new local law in the next newsletter.

A discussion was brought up in regards to the brick wall on West Market St. There are several large cracks in this wall. It must be determined who owns this brick wall. Trustee Blundell made a motion to have the Village Attorney draft a letter to the state to push them to make a definitive statement. Trustee Thayer seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion hire a firm from Kingston to do a traffic study in the Village of Red Hook. Trustee Thayer seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Blundell would like to see the speed trailers back in the Village. Clerk Cole will call the Sheriff's Department to see on availability.

Police Officer Rex Maine asked the board if this was a public building and if this was a public meeting? The board stated yes. Next Mr. Maine asked the board what crime did he commit and why was he notified by Officer Cole and Officer Ryan Griffin not to enter into the Police Department? Why does he not have access to the Village Hall? Mr. Maine stated that he was brought up on charges pending from an incident with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department. This was a conversation about a Mexican. Officer Maine asked the board if they heard the tape that recorded this conversation. Why Officer Maine was not issued a letter of reinstatement? Also, why Officer Maine was not paid for a shift on April 30, 2005? What was the racist remark that was made to this dispatcher? These were questions being addressed to the board. The board did not comment to any of these allegations. Also, Officer Maine stated that Mayor Cohen made a statement to the Officer Brad Moore about his colored tenants. Last why was he not put on the schedule for the last month? Trustee Gilfeather asked Officer Maine to put all of these concerns in writing.

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to pay bills after audit. Trustee Thayer seconded. All were in favor.

Trustee Gilfeather made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Thayer seconded. All were in favor.

Submitted by

Cindi Cole
Clerk