

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 25, 2023

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Robert McKeon
Councilmember William Hamel
Councilmember Christine Kane
Councilmember Jacob Testa
Councilmember Julia Solomon
Town Clerk Deanna Cochran
Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale Esq.

Supervisor McKeon opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and reviewed the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

Resolution to Set Public Hearing- Local Law A: Volunteer Firefighter & Ambulance Workers Property Tax Exemption

Supervisor McKeon explained this 10% town tax exemption was available for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. Dutchess County decided on establishing a three-year minimum service requirement for eligibility and Supervisor McKeon suggested the same.

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 4
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

**ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING
THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF
LOCAL LAW NO. A (PROPOSED) OF 2023 AMENDING CHAPTER 126
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK REGARDING PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTION FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a, the Town is authorized to grant certain exemptions by local option with respect to Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers as defined therein; and

WHEREAS, a proposed form of Local Law No. A (Proposed) of 2023 entitled “A Local Law To Amend Chapter 126 of the Code of the Town of Red Hook Entitled ‘Taxation’ By Enacting a New Article V Regarding a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law” has been submitted to the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (the “Proposed Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Local Law would amend the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook to exercise the Town’s right, pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law, to enact legislation that will exempt up to 10% of assessed value of real property owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, department or voluntary ambulance service who has served a minimum number of years; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the proposed local law is best described as a local legislative decision concerning routine administration and management, a “Type II” action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (by the favorable vote of not less than a majority of all of the members of the Board) as follows:

1. The Town Board of the Town of Red Hook shall hold a public hearing on February 14, 2023, at 7:35 p.m. to hear all interested parties on said Proposed Local Law; and

2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the Poughkeepsie Journal, the official newspaper of said Town, on or before February 9, 2023, which is not less than five calendar days prior to the date of said public hearing.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook on January 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. local time at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook NY.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robert McKeon, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

	Present	Absent
Supervisor Robert McKeon	In Person	
Councilmember William Hamel	In Person	
Councilmember Christine Kane	In Person	
Councilmember Julia Solomon	In Person	
Councilmember Jacob Testa	In Person	

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT:

Christine M. Chale, Esq., Attorney for the Town

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor McKeon, seconded by Councilmember Hamel, to wit;

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 4
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF LOCAL LAW NO. A (PROPOSED) OF 2023 AMENDING CHAPTER 126 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK REGARDING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Robert McKeon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember William Hamel	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Christine Kane	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Julia Solomon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jacob Testa	VOTING <u>Aye</u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution to set Public Hearing- Local Law B: Incentive Zoning Amendments

Supervisor McKeon explained this Local Law would give the town greater flexibility with the use of the funds acquired from incentive zoning fees.

Attorney Chris Chale explained this Local Law sets forth the procedures to purchase and preserve open space. She also reviewed the associated environmental assessment form.

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 5
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

RESOLUTION CLASSIFYING ACTION AND ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. B (PROPOSED) OF 2023 TO AMEND THE ZONING LAW, CHAPTER 143, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK REGARDING INCENTIVE ZONING

WHEREAS, a proposed form of Local Law No. B (Proposed) of 2023 entitled “A Local Law To Amend the Zoning Law, Chapter 143, of the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook Regarding Incentive Zoning” has been submitted to the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (the “Proposed Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Local Law would amend the incentive zoning provisions of the Zoning Code of the Town of Red Hook to encourage the use of the incentive zoning for the protection of open space and to encourage the development of affordable housing and the location of housing in the TND; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed an Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) and Coastal Assessment Form (CAF), in the forms on file with the Town Clerk, the proposed action is a Type 1 action, and there are no other involved agencies; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments are consistent with the recommendations of the Town’s Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law, proposed amendments to the zoning law must be referred to the Department of Planning and Development for its review and report thereon;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (by the favorable vote of not less than a majority of all of the members of the Board) as follows:

3. The Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the EAF in the form on file with the Town Clerk.
4. The Town Board hereby determines that the proposed action is a Type 1 action under SEQRA and declares itself Lead Agency for the review of this action, as it is the only involved agency.
5. The Town Board of the Town of Red Hook shall hold a public hearing on February 14, 2023, at 7:45p.m. to hear all interested parties on said Proposed Local Law and at which time and place the Town Board may determine whether to adopt the proposed local law; and
6. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the Poughkeepsie Journal, the official newspaper of said Town, on or before February 4, 2023, which is not less than ten calendar days prior to the date of said public hearing.
7. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to refer a copy of said Proposed Local Law to the Planning Board, together with a copy of the EAF, for a report and recommendation thereon pursuant to Section 143-141 of the Zoning Law and, pursuant to Section 68-12(c) of the Town Code, for its recommendations regarding consistency with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan; and
8. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to refer a copy of said Proposed Local Law to the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development for a report and recommendation thereon pursuant to Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law.
9. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send notice of said public hearing to the clerks of adjacent municipalities.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook on January 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. local time at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook NY.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robert McKeon, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

	Present	Absent
Supervisor Robert McKeon	In Person	
Councilmember William Hamel	In Person	
Councilmember Christine Kane	In Person	
Councilmember Julia Solomon	In Person	
Councilmember Jacob Testa	In Person	

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT:

Christine M. Chale, Esq., Attorney for the Town

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Kane, seconded by Councilmember Solomon, to wit;

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 5
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

RESOLUTION CLASSIFYING ACTION AND ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. B (PROPOSED) OF 2023 TO AMEND THE ZONING LAW, CHAPTER 143, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK REGARDING INCENTIVE ZONING

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Robert McKeon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember William Hamel	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Christine Kane	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Julia Solomon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jacob Testa	VOTING <u>Aye</u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution to set Public Hearing- Local Law C: Open Space Conservation

Supervisor McKeon explained the resolution.

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 6
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

RESOLUTION CLASSIFYING ACTION AND ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. C (PROPOSED) OF 2023 TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 58 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK ENTITLED “CONSERVATION OF OPEN SPACE”

WHEREAS, a proposed form of Local Law No. C (Proposed) of 2023 entitled “A Local Law To Enact a New 58 of the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook Entitled ‘Conservation of Open Space’” has been submitted to the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (the “Proposed Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Local Law would amend the Town Code of the Town of Red Hook to is to provide for the preservation of open space and areas which shall constitute a public purpose for which public funds may be expended or advanced after notice and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed an Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) and Coastal Assessment Form (CAF), in the forms on file with the Town Clerk, the proposed action is a Type 1 action, and there are no other involved agencies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook (by the favorable vote of not less than a majority of all of the members of the Board) as follows:

10. The Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the EAF in the form on file with the Town Clerk.

11. The Town Board hereby determines that the proposed action is a Type 1 action under SEQRA and declares itself Lead Agency for the review of this action, as it is the only involved agency.

12. The Town Board of the Town of Red Hook shall hold a public hearing on February 14, 2023, at 7:50 p.m. to hear all interested parties on said Proposed Local Law and at which time and place the Town Board may determine whether to adopt the proposed local law; and

13. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the Poughkeepsie Journal, the official newspaper of said Town, on or before February 9, 2023, which is not less than five calendar days prior to the date of said public hearing.

14. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to refer a copy of said Proposed Local Law to the Planning Board, together with a copy of the EAF, pursuant to Section 68-12(c) of the Town Code, for its recommendations regarding consistency with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook on January 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. local time at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook NY.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robert McKeon, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

	Present	Absent
Supervisor Robert McKeon	In Person	
Councilmember William Hamel	In Person	
Councilmember Christine Kane	In Person	
Councilmember Julia Solomon	In Person	
Councilmember Jacob Testa	In Person	

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT:

Christine M. Chale, Esq., Attorney for the Town

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Kane, seconded by Councilmember Solomon, to wit;

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 6
DATED JANUARY 25, 2023**

RESOLUTION CLASSIFYING ACTION AND ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. C (PROPOSED) OF 2023 TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 58 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK ENTITLED "CONSERVATION OF OPEN SPACE"

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Robert McKeon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember William Hamel	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Christine Kane	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Julia Solomon	VOTING <u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jacob Testa	VOTING <u>Aye</u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Discussion – Association of Towns Legislative Resolutions

Supervisor McKeon reviewed the proposed resolutions which will be discussed at the Association of Towns Conference.

Councilmember Hamel questioned who would fund the support for Resolution No. 5 regarding affordable housing. Supervisor McKeon answered he believed it was an incentive-based program.

Supervisor McKeon reviewed Resolution No. 6 regarding the expansion of cellular and broadband services. He and Councilmember Kane stated they supported having more control and authority over guiding the development of 5G in our community. Councilmember Solomon added this concerned the concept of home rule. Councilmember Testa expressed his support for this resolution.

Supervisor McKeon reviewed Resolution No. 7 regarding the Towns authority to set speed limits on local roads and voiced his support of this resolution. He added this would only affect local roads.

Supervisor McKeon explained Resolution No. 9 addresses the potential liability from trees planted or maintained by the Town and the protection prior notice would provide a Town in the event there was an issue with those trees.

Councilmember Hamel asked if there was a history of problems with other municipalities planting trees. Supervisor McKeon answered he believed this was not about the planting of trees, but rather to address the liability associated with a tree in the event there was a safety issue or an accident.

Attorney Chris Chale confirmed this resolution intended to ensure a prior notice requirement before litigation in the event of an accident involving a tree planted or maintained by a municipality.

Councilmember Solomon added she understood this resolution would make it easier for municipalities to plant more trees.

On a motion by Councilmember Kane seconded by Supervisor McKeon to support all 11 of the resolution topics of the Association of Towns Legislative Agenda

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
	Nays	0	

Discussion- Update- Road/Stream Crossing Management Plan

Ryan Morrison of Tighe & Bond gave an update on the road-stream crossing management plan for the Town of Red Hook. He reviewed the road-stream crossings inventory and the ranking of prioritizations.

Councilmember Solomon asked for clarity for the ranking of prioritizations. Ryan Morrison reviewed the prioritization chart and explained the priority was to choose culverts that would meet the requirements of this grant opportunity. He also explained there were other culverts identified that could qualify for improvements through different grant opportunities.

He reviewed the conditions and reasons for improvement of the 4 different culverts chosen for this project.

Councilmember Solomon asked if climate change scenarios were considered in the design of the culverts. Ryan Morrison answered Tighe & Bond uses designs that were intended for a 100 year storms as a conservative measure to adapt to climate changes.

Discussion – Task Order- Rec Connector Project

Ryan Morrison of Tighe & Bond reviewed the connection pathway between Rec Park East and Rec Park West project and the supporting grant. Supervisor McKeon stated the project could be completed by the end of Summer of 2023.

On a motion by Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilmember Kane to approve the task order and the updated contract agreement with Dutchess County

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

Reorganization

Water District #1 Water Board

7 Members 2-year appointment

Chair- Henry Van Parys 2023

Vice Chair- Jerry Gilnack 2022

Ablen Amrod 2022

Laurence Carr 2023

Greg Fildes 2023

Michael Roomberg 2023

Jerry Gilnack 2023

Phillip A. McDougall 2024

Henry Van Parys 2024

Secretary PT- Doreen Buono

Liaison: William Hamel

On a motion by Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilmember to appoint Henry Van Parys as the Chair and Jerry Gilnack as the Vice Chair of the Water District #1 Water Board

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

On a motion by Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilmember Hamel to reappoint Henry Van Parys and Phil Mc Dougall as members of the Water District #1 Water Board for terms to expire December 31, 2024

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

Greenway and Trails

8 Members 2-year Appointment

Chair- Lisa Whalen 2023

Jim Blakney 2023

Bruce Cuttler 2023

Brenda Cagle 2023

Howard Calies 2023

Lisa Whalen 2023

Melissa Cohen 2024

Cat Viega 2024

Linda DiGasper 2024

John Kuhn (*ex-officio*)

Doug Strawinski (*ex-officio*)

Liaison: Christine Kane

On a motion by Councilmember Kane seconded by Supervisor McKeon by to appoint Linda DiGasper as a member of the Greenway and Trails committee for a term to expire December 31, 2024

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

Streetlight Maintenance Agreement

Supervisor McKeon explained the 2-year streetlight maintenance agreement and stated the agreement will cost approximately \$6,000.00 a year for the general maintenance. Supervisor McKeon also stated that, anticipated in 2024, there will be a budget proposal to reduce the taxes for the lighting district based on the savings the LED lights in the streetlights will provide.

On a motion by Councilmember Hamel seconded by Christine Kane to approve the Streetlight Maintenance Agreement

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

Board & Committee Reports

ANIMAL CONTROL: The Animal Control Report for the month of December included two feral cats and the year-end numbers of 44 total incidents for 2022.

TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION: In the month of January, the new oak trees on Pitcher Lane were pruned, the 2023 Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for Saturday April 29, 2023 and the spring tree planting will be at Rec Park West.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: In the month of December, there were 102 incidents, 31 tickets issued, and 2 arrests.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: For the 2022 year, 1.37 miles of roads were paved, 3 miles of roads were chip sealed, 240 feet of culvert pipes were replaced, 2 dead deer were removed from town roads, and 20 dead trees were removed with the help from a contractor.

BUILDING & ZONING: For the month of January, 380 permits were issued, there were 893 inspections, 256 CO's/CC's were issued. There were no complaints and \$144, 195.85 reported in revenue.

On a motion by Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilmember Testa to enter Attorney Client Session

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

10:03 pm On a motion by Councilmember Hamel seconded by Councilmember Kane to exit Attorney Client Session

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

10:05 pm On motion by Councilmember Hamel seconded by Councilmember Kane to adjourn the meeting.

Adopted Ayes 5 McKeon, Hamel, Kane, Solomon, Testa
 Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Cochran, Town Clerk