

**VILLAGE OF RED HOOK  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
JUNE 22, 2022**

PRESENT: MAYOR SMYTHE, DEPUTY MAYOR KOVALCHIK, TRUSTEE KJARVAL, TRUSTEE LAING & CLERK CAVANAUGH

ABSENT: TRUSTEE D.DWYER-McNULTY

Meeting opened at 7:11PM

**Trustee Kjarval made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2022 Board of Trustee Workshop Meeting. Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Kovalchik. No discussion or corrections. All in favor. Motion approved.**

The Trustees discussed hiring a summer intern. This position would be 5 hours per week and paid minimum wage (\$13.20). The budget for this position would be covered by budget currently allotted for a deputy clerk but will not be spent as Village does not have the position filled yet.

**Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to hire Cassandra Coleman as the Village's summer intern. Motion seconded by Trustee Laing. No discussion. All in favor. Motion approved.**

Trustees discussed the NYS Climate Action Council Scoping Plan. Mayor Smythe made a motion to pass Resolution 10 of 2022, "Resolution Declaring Support for the NYS Climate Action Council Scoping Plan" and the motion was seconded by Trustee Laing.

**Resolution No. 10 of 2022**

**Declaring Support for the New York State Climate Action Council Scoping Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Sixth Assessment of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the IPCC Assessment concludes that rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are necessary, including accelerated action in this critical decade, to limit global warming to within 1.5°C and 2°C in this century; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State recognizes the urgent need to reduce and eliminate GHG emissions in the atmosphere, passing the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("Climate Act") committing the State to:

- reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent by 2030 below 1990 levels, and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050;
- meet 70 percent of electricity needs from renewable resources by 2030, and 100 percent of electricity needs from zero-emissions resources by 2040;
- ensure a just and equitable transition that leaves no one behind, and dedicate up to 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments to Disadvantaged Communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Climate Action Council has approved for public comment a Draft Scoping Plan to meet New York's climate and equity goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan calls for shifting to energy-efficient electrification in buildings and transportation as the primary solution to replace fossil-fuel combustion in these sectors, which together account for 60 percent of the state's carbon emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan calls for a phase-down of emissions from fossil fuel-fired electricity generation, while ensuring support and protections for impacted workers as they transition to clean energy jobs;

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 Jobs Study by the Just Transition Working Group for the NYS Climate Action Council estimates that meeting New York's climate goals will result in a net gain of 189,000 jobs across the state by 2030, alone, with a ratio of jobs gained to jobs displaced of 10 to 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan includes measures that would expand the development of renewable resources and battery storage, encourage "agrivoltaics," or the co-location of agricultural activities with solar and wind, and provide resources to communities to assist with renewable siting and land-use planning;

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan recognizes the critical role that rural landscapes play, both natural and working lands, in sequestering carbon emissions and enabling the state to achieve net-zero emissions, and the importance of agricultural land preservation, open space protection, support for farmers to improve soil health, and policies that expand afforestation and reforestation and incentivize and assist private landowners in implementing sustainable forest management practices;

**WHEREAS**, the Integration Analysis for the Scoping Plan finds that meeting emissions reduction goals of the Climate Act is technically feasible and will have the additional and significant benefit of improving public health by eliminating co-pollutants from fossil fuel combustion, resulting in an estimated \$50 to \$120 billion in health-related savings by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, according to NYSERDA, over half of what New Yorkers currently spend on energy leaves New York, mostly for fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, our communities would be better served by keeping energy spending primarily within the local economy; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook affirms the critical importance of meeting the emissions and equity goals of the Climate Act, which will help mitigate dangerous warming while delivering the additional benefits of improving public health, economic opportunities, agricultural land open space protection, and quality of life for the people of the Village of Red Hook; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook declares its support for prohibiting an expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, which contradicts the goals of the Climate Act, and for transitioning to efficient electricity-based solutions for buildings and transportation; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook supports a planning process for a managed transition of the utility gas system that maintains affordable, safe, and reliable utility service and protects low- and moderate-income households from an undue burden in the transition; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan for advanced building codes that will improve the energy efficiency of new buildings, creating healthier living and work environments while reducing monthly energy costs; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan to phase in code requirements prohibiting on-site combustion of fossil fuels in new buildings over a 2024-2027 period; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook calls on the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan the necessary policies and support to help owners of existing buildings improve energy efficiency and transition to zero-emissions equipment, ensuring cost parity with fossil systems, with incentives and financing assistance as necessary; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook supports Scoping Plan recommendations that make electric vehicles more affordable relative to gas-powered vehicles, and expand fast-charging infrastructure; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook urges the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan recommendations to expand assistance for all-electric upstate municipal transit systems; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook further urges the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and NYSERDA to immediately launch a sustained statewide public education and information campaign on the benefits of a clean energy economy and climate-friendly choices by consumers of heating and cooling systems, transportation, and products and appliances; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Village of Red Hook shall forward copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, President of NYSERDA, Chair of the NYS Public Service Commission, the NYS Climate Action Council, and Members of the State Senate and Assembly representing the Village of Red Hook.

VOTE:

Mayor Karen Smythe	<u>yes</u>
Deputy Mayor Brent Kovalchik	<u>yes</u>
Trustee Charlie Laing	<u>yes</u>
Trustee Melkorka Kjarval	<u>yes</u>
Trustee Declan Dwyer-McNulty	<u>absent</u>

The motion passes

Clerk Cavanaugh (Water Clerk) and Trustees discussed the need to recodify water rates, review and update water code, and to draft new policies including a water shutoff policy. The Trustees discussed adding a line to the next water bill that notifies customers of resources available if they're having trouble paying their utility bill.

Trustees discussed the parking lot policies. Clerk Cavanaugh stated that Judge Jonah would like to see the EV parking sign changed to say EV parking while charging. Trustees discussed possible parking permits and additional signage (winter and event parking rules). Mayor Smythe stated that Village should establish a Parking Lot Working Task Force.

Trustees discussed the need for a new noise ordinance and the early pick-up and noise of private garbage pick-ups.

Trustees also discussed the need for regulations around short-term rentals (AirBnB) which are currently not permitted in the Village. Deputy Mayor Kovalchik will work with Mayor Smythe to draft language.

Trustees discussed ways to increase the Village's garbage and recycling program including a semi-annual or annual trash sticker.

No budget adjustments were necessary.

Trustees discussed the School District's SRO program in conjunction with the Village of Red Hook's Police Department.

**Mayor Smythe made a motion to move all future Board of Trustees Workshop meetings to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7pm. Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Kovalchik. All in favor. Motion approved.**

**Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to pay all Village bills after audit. Motion seconded by Trustee Laing. All in favor. Motion approved.**

**Deputy Mayor Kovalchik made a motion to adjourn the June 22, 2022 Village Board Workshop Meeting at 9:05pm. Motion seconded by Trustee Laing. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Cavanaugh, Village Clerk