

*Applied in
September*

NYAOT Towns of Excellence Application

This is the online form to apply for a NYAOT Towns of Excellence Award

Name of Town *

Stuyvesant

Town Supervisor Name and Contact Information *

Ron Knott - Supervisor@stuyvesantny.us

Town Clerk Name and Contact Information *

Melissa Naegeli - TownClerk@stuyvesantny.us

Other Key Contacts *

Cathy KNott, Historian - historian@stuyvesantny.us

Population (most recent census) *

2000

Town Website URL *

stuyvesantny.us

NYAOT membership dues paid for the current year *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

Town officers / employees attended at least one NYAOT training in the past 12 months (including virtual roundtables) *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

The town has had no material audit findings in the last three years or can demonstrate steps taken to address any material findings *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Timely Annual Financial Report filing with the Office of the State Comptroller *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Town is not in moderate or significant fiscal stress (OSC Fiscal Stress Monitoring System) or, if so, can provide plan for addressing concerns *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Economic Development - please describe any initiatives related to business growth, job creation or economic revitalization *

We recently completed an update to our Comprehensive Plan to encourage responsible growth in our community as well as preserving the beautiful natural resources we enjoy.

Sustainability - please describe the town's efforts to address clean energy, climate resilience, recycling, green infrastructure or other sustainability efforts *

In conjunction with the Town's Climate Smart Task Force, we have instituted several changes over the last few years. We had the Town Hall reinsulated and new heat pumps installed as well changing all the light fixtures to LED. We have upgraded the heating and A/C services at the highway garage and are currently waiting for the work to be completed in changing to LED in that building as well. We also participated in a street light conversion to LED in our lighting districts.

Our Climate Smart Tax Force & Highway Department also received a grant to purchase battery-operated hand-held tools, such as weed trimmers.

Our Climate Smart Task Force has a plastics collection bin at the Town Hall. This a program that works with Trex products and we have the opportunity earn Trex benches for every 1000 pounds of plastic collected. To date we have earned 3 benches and are well on our way to a 4th

Community Engagement - please explain how your town engages residents and fosters community, whether through events, participation, communication tools or other mechanisms *

Our Town tries to be active with the Community. This year we have hosted, through the Town Hall, an Easter Egg Hunt, a community trash clean-up day, and a Community Big Truck & Vendor Event. This Fall we will hold another clean up day, an Annual Halloween Party, will have Santa's Mailbox again (children leave letters and get a letter and an ornament in return), and a children's Christmas Party.

We also have an Historic Railroad Station that has a committee and a 501(c)3 designation. There are monthly events - free movies, dinners, talks, etc. to raise money for the continued care and restoration of the building.

Quality of Life - please explain how your town has invested in parks, recreation, housing, safety, or other * quality of life initiatives

We are currently building a Veterans' Memorial Park on the grounds of the Town Hall. This is to honor those who were/are from Stuyvesant who serve in our Military and any family member who served of a resident of the Town. There are bricks available to purchase and have engraved. We expect the dedication to occur this Fall. This has been a big success with the residents and former residents of the Town.

We installed a new gazebo at one of our two playgrounds and are reviewing new equipment for the other. Our playgrounds are very busy with the our resident children.

The Town partners with a neighboring Town to provide "camp" services to our resident children. Our Board budgets to pay the full amount for the 6 week camp for our resident children since we do not have the ability to offer such a camp in our town. This year 33 of our resident children took advantage of this program.

Governance and Transparency - please detail improvements in sound fiscal policy, access to information, * ethics, strategic planning, and other governance issues

The Town Supervisor, together with the Town Board, has kept the Budget to minimum cap raises over the past 12 years, and in some instances slight decreases. With the conservative fiscal planning, we have purchased the last two highway vehicles without having to bond them, thus eliminating additional debt to the tax payers.

Next year our only bond will be paid off after 15 years.

Our Fiscal Stress Score is 0 every year.

Workforce Development - please explain how your town invests in continuing education and training of * its workforce that goes above and beyond any mandatory training requirements

The Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Town Justice regularly attend yearly training. All of our Planning & Zoning Board members, the Building Inspector, and Assessor complete their continuing education credit requirements, often exceeding the hours necessary. We believe keeping up on our training and education is important to providing our residents with the best possible service we can.

Optional "X" Factor - please share something extraordinary or unique about your town. This is your opportunity to show how your town hoes above and beyond!

The "X" Factor for Stuyvesant... is the residents. We are a mix of old (long) timers and new residents. We are a community that is alive and well with volunteers - having 2 active volunteer fire companies in our town. We are an agricultural community (with more cows than people) and have more preserved conservation space than about any other Town in the State -- about 44% of the total land area is protected by conservation easements.

By checking yes below, I certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name and office of applicant

Melissa A. Naegeli, RMC -- Town Clerk

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