

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday April 13, 2015 7:00 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Supervisor Mark Surdam, Bruce Patire, Dave Sutton, Jeff Wysocki, Jenn Hyde

Previous Meeting(s) Minutes- have been reviewed by the board and are available from the Town Clerk or www.townofhoosick.org.

Welcome/Public Comments-- Open time to share thoughts, concerns, and announcements with the Board that are Town related. Please limit remarks to 3 minutes

Rick Tinkham: Bank owned foreclosed property on Baby Lane has rats and entire property is littered with garbage, in addition there is a person living in the house.

Surdam: Said he will notify the Building Inspector.

Kevin Allard: Gave the Town Clerk 5 FOIL requests, wanted a White Creek Bridge update.

Correspondence/Announcements

- **Boy Scouts....Congratulations-** Two new Eagle Scouts in the Town of Hoosick, Will Clifford & Gregory Pirie and Reed Kroback, Scouting's highest rank advancement.
- **Girl Scouts-** are collecting flags for "STARS FOR OUR TROOPS" Flag Project. Info is on our web site. Flags can be dropped at a number of locations including the Town Office.

- **Voice of a Vet Fundraiser-** Alcohol Free Event on Tuesday May 5th at Brown's Brewing. Giffy's Chicken, HFCS Jazz Band, Silent Auction, Live Dessert Auction with our own Ron Seifert plus Brown's will be serving their very own root beer. Additional Information available www.townofhoosick.org. The Board has been asked to donate a season pass to the pool to help with fundraiser. Discussion -
Stradinger: said we have in the past donated a free membership for fund raising.
Town Board Members: All agreed we need to have the Attorney review this to see if it's permissible using taxpayer's money as a donation.
Town Attorney Derek Sellman: said he will review the request as it all depends on what the fundraiser money is being used for.
Town Board: Tabled until Attorney can review it.

- **Letter of Peace & Encouragement from Children @ St. Mary's-** Along with a Peace Dove was sent to Supervisor Surdam. Thank you!!!
- **Lace Up For Cure-** This coming Sat. April 18th. Info is on our web site or contact Gretchen Yonconish 518-488-7238 or gyoncinish@roadrunner.com.
- **Kiwanis "Walk for Autism"-** Next Saturday, April 25th at the HAYC3 Armory. Info is on our web site or Call Natalie Ryan at 518-203-8474
- **\$300 Eagles Club Donation-** to be used towards training our lifeguards. Thank you Very Much!!
- **Memorial Day Parade-** Kevin O'Malley has stepped up to assist the American Legion with organizing this year's parade. I'm sure Kevin could use some help. Please contact Supervisor Surdam or Kevin if you are willing to get involved in this wonderful event.
- **Love Your Village-** Village Clean Up is May 2nd from 9am-noon. Meet at the HAYC3 Welcome Station in Wood Park at 9am. Additional info on our web site or call 686-9050 or e-mail contactHAYC3@gmail.com.
- **Hoosick Falls Country Club-** Chef Jeff Babson & the HFCC announce that on Wed 4/15 @ 4:30 the Restaurant will be open and serving dinner from the completely renovated and updated kitchen. It looks great, a job well done!!! Membership Applications are available at the club, on our web site or www.hoosickgolf.org.

Town Clerk's Report

- Remodeling work completed in the Town Clerks Office, Great Job!!!
- **Office Windows:** will need to meet with HAYC3 on what we can do. Wysocki got an Estimate from Eagle Bridge Window - it's approx.. \$300+ per window replacement.
- **March Report:** Total: \$615.50 remitted to Supervisor \$326.24

- **Facility Use Request**
 1. Woodford School – Pool June 16th. COI received.
Motion to Approve
Patire made the motion to approve Woodford School, Wysocki seconded, all ayes carried.
 2. Youth Football and Cheerleading: use of Athletic fields –Aug. 1st through Nov. 1st. Mon. Wed. Fri: 5-8pm Tues & Thurs: 5:30 -8pm. COI not received.
Motion to Approve
Patire made the motion to approve use of Youth Football pending receiving COI, Hyde seconded, all ayes carried.

Assessor's Report

- **Fiber Optics off the Tax Rolls-** Discussion, long term effects to tax base as 1 million assessed value continues to be removed from our Tax Tolls. It will be over a 3 year phase out per State Court Ruling.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **2015-16 State Funding-** CHIPS \$128,996 & Extreme Winter Recovery \$19,101
- **Budget-** Long cold Winter has caused **serious** budget concerns for later this year.
- **Insurance Check received-** \$29,017 for truck that was totaled.
- **White Creek Bridge Update:** Paving will begin once material is available.
- **Trailer for Mowers/Small Equipment-** received quotes. In favor of a Kaufman, multi-use trailer at a cost of \$4800. +/- that includes shipping.
 - **Motion to Approve**
Patire made the motion to approve the purchase of the Kaufman trailer at the cost stated above, Sutton seconded, all ayes carried.

Town Historian - display of 1898 Flood

Recreation Report

- **Pool Information & Updates-** will be available at www.hoosickrecreation.com.
- **Pool Concession-** Discussion tabled.

- **Lifeguards-** We still have a few openings for Lifeguards for the 2015 swim season. Please apply now so we can coordinate all needed training prior to the pool opening in June. Applications are available on our town web site or from the Town Clerks Office. Scheduling for certification and recertification is under way.
 - **Motion to Appoint - Lifeguards**
Will Clifford
Katherine Danforth
Sean Dingman
Alyssa Houghton
Kelli Grennan
Kara Laflamme
Michael Matatt
Dana O'Malley
Tyler Rondeau
Lizza Ryan
Sutton made the motion to approve Lifeguard appointments as named in the above stated list, Wysocki seconded all ayes carried.

- **Summer Camp Staff-** We had many applications this year for Summer camp Staff. We were able to fill most of our Summer camp Staff with returning staff members; we are going to offer extra applicants opportunity to be a Lifeguard at our pool. We will have appointment list at May meeting.

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- Attended a Kiwanis meeting with Jeff Wysoski and heard a presentation from Karen Armstrong, who is a Project manager for Parkitects Inc. Karen, has been to the Castle Playground and is recommending that we complete a Playground Safety Audit & Maintenance Inspection to use as a planning/priority document as we begin the process of updating the Castle Playground. Based on the discussion, questions and comments during and following the presentation it seemed very obvious to me that Wendy Larson and the entire Kiwanis Club is very interested and excited to be working on this project.
- Attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Weather that day was not great although it was fine during the parade and we had two Basketball teams playing in the State Tournament that afternoon so attendance was off a little. Thank you to the St. Patrick's Parade committee for all your efforts!!!
- Met with Bob Phelps, RBP Web Designs who post all of our information at www.townofhoosick.org. This was just a meeting to make sure everything is working for all of us as far as communication and things go. We talked about tweaking a couple of things but are very happy with the website and how things are going. Bob has done a great job for us!!!
- I was a part of a Saturday morning meeting with the Village & Town Boards as we walked through both the Village Highway Garage & the Town Highway Garage. This was a part of an ongoing conversation looking at way of sharing or combining space and or services beyond what we already do. It was a good meeting.
- I attended the Year End HACA meeting held at the Baptist Church. Thank you to all of the HACA members for your time and commitment to serve those in need in our community!!!
- Attend one of a series of local Emergency Planning Meetings. These meeting have proven to be very informative and helpful to me personally as Supervisor.
- Met with Bob Nesbit as we continue to work on putting together a Computer Server for our Town Office Computers. I am somewhat disappointed in how long this is taking but we will get there.
- Hoosick Rising Meeting- I came down with a stomach bug the afternoon of the meeting so I was not able to attend. I am a huge supporter for the work & goals of Hoosick Rising, it WILL benefit us all, we still need people to get involved. Deborah Alter wrote a great article in last week's Eastwick Press on Hoosick Rising, please take the time to read it. Thank you Deb!!!
- I continue to meet with & talk to Tom Valone & others as we continue to discuss options of getting High Speed Internet into the rural areas of our Town. This is a Hoosick Rising Initiative and we are making great progress. We hope we will be able to announce some exciting news soon.
- I was told by Assessor Rice recently that due to a change in how Fiber Optics is taxed we will be losing another 1 million dollars off from our tax rolls. I am extremely concerned about this. We have been handed multiple years of reductions off from our tax rolls and each time we do those that are left have to pick up what was lost. Economic Development is what Hoosick Rising is all about, that why I am a huge supporter. This is a great community and a great place to live. We have so much that other communities our size cannot even dream of having. We have to work together to get others to see that this is a great place to raise your family, we have great schools, we are safe, we are close to many areas of interest, we have great history, and this will be a great place to move or start your business. We need a good company with good jobs that will help support our tax base that will pay a decent wage so people can afford to maintain their homes, pay their mortgage, and yes, be able to afford to pay the taxes that support our community.
I encourage ideas and suggestions. We need people to get involved to work on what is becoming a critical issue.
Please understand: this is not entirely a Mark Surdam Issue because I am the Town Supervisor. This is not just a Town Board Issue. I believe this is a serious Community Issue that we need help solving. Please consider getting involved, we need your talents and we need your help!!!

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Wysocki:

A camp built on his land by the TV show "Building Wild" is appearing on TV tomorrow night at 9pm.
Attended Kiwanis meeting, Hoosick Rising meeting, and breakfast at the Buskirk Firehouse.

Councilperson Patire

- Purchase Orders- As part of reviewing and updating the Town's Purchasing Policy the issue of using PO's has come up. Bruce has been reviewing the use of a PO system should the board decide to implement.
Board Discussion: decided to keep Our current system but use Purchase Orders for Highway larger items. The Attorney suggested giving a 'Terms and Conditions ' to Our Vendors.
- **Councilperson Sutton**
Addressed the high school students at Our meeting urging them to be careful driving this Spring.

Councilperson Hyde:

- Started looking into the Street light outage request.
- Shop Street Bridge (Church St.) owned by the Town will have new LED lights installed.
- Attended Hoosick Rising meeting and found they need Technical savvy people to help with our businesses in the computer world and getting them on the internet.

Old or Ongoing Business

- **Castle Playground-** Supervisor & Deputy Supervisor met with Hoosick Kiwanis Club and heard a presentation from Karen Armstrong, Project Manager from Parkitects Inc. The Kiwanis is asking the Board to approve paying \$1,000 out of our dedicated Castle playground Fund to have Parkitects complete a Playground Maintenance Audit & Safety Inspection. They will use that report to create a rehab plan and schedule. Discussion.
 - **Resolution #53, Retain Services of Parkitects, Inc. to Complete Playground Safety Audit & Maintenance Inspection of Castle Playground.**
Motion to Approve
Wysocki made the motion to approve resolution #53, Sutton seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.
- **Computer Server-** Taking longer than anticipated but still on the way.
- **Consolidated Funding Grant-** For the project to update the Pool Mechanical Room (pump house) and the bath house. Supervisor met with Danielle Dwyer of NYS Parks & Rich LaBerge to review outline of grant and its requirements. We are going to need assistance to get through this process. Discussion.
- **Updating Purchase Policy & Investment Policy-** We continue to look at these policies that were last updated in 1999.
- **Woods Brook-** Mayor Borge & Supervisor Surdam will be signing the agreement this week with Barton & Logoidick D.P.C. to have them submit on our behalf the CDBG Community Planning Grant Program Application.
- **2015 Youth Development Grant-** Information and application have been returned to the Rensselaer County Dept. of Youth, we are waiting to hear from them.
- **County Wide Government Efficiency Plan-** In our continued effort to work on this plan to comply with the NYS Tax Freeze Law members of the Town & Village Boards did meet and go through both the Village & Town Highway Garages. It was pretty clear that all good useable space is being used by both departments. We will continue to work together to look for opportunities to share and help each other.
- **Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Position-** This is a part time position requires approx. 3-4 hours per day, 3-4 days a week, some call in time, mandatory training required, with a budgeted annual salary of \$14,752. *One application received, discussion-*
Board agreed to interview the one applicant and continue to advertise.
- **Grievance Review Board Opening-** Requirements are to attend a 3 hour training class put on by Rensselaer County in late April or early May. The Grievance Board convenes on the 4th Tuesday in May from 4-8pm. Compensation is \$100 plus Pizza. Please contact Supervisor Surdam or any Town Board Member if interested
- **Summer Camp & Pool Applications from Rensselaer County-** Kaila & Supervisor Surdam have started working on the applications; we have also been in touch with Amanda from Rensselaer County who will be working on the Summer Camp application with us. We will complete the applications and send them in within the next week or two.
- **Water Agreement w/Village-** We have passed an agreement that the Rensselaer County Attorney was not completely comfortable with and has asked us to pass an updated resolution.
 - **Resolution #54 Water Agreement with the Village**
Motion to Approve
Sutton made the motion to approve the Water Agreement res. #54, Hyde seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.

New Business

- **2015 Summer Camp & Pool Employee Pay Scale-** Motion to Accept
 - \$8.75 hr. - Camp Councilor
 - \$9.25 hr. - Camp Counselor with CPR & First Aid
 - \$10.00 hr. - Life Guards
 - \$11.00 hr. - Life Guards with WSI Certification
 - \$12.00 hr. - Assistant Managers- One for Summer Camp & One for Pool
- **Motion to Approve Pay Scale**
Sutton made the motion to approve the pay scale for Councilors and Life Guards as stated in the above list.
- **Basketball Summer Camp-** High School Teacher & Coach Chris Fleming would like to run one week program 6/29-7/2. Discussion.
Surdam: will talk further with Fleming.

- **Appointment to Zoning Board**
 - **Resolution #55 Reappointing Andy Beaty as a Member of the Towns Zoning Board with a term to expire April 20, 2020.**
Motion to Approve Appointment
Sutton made the motion to approve Res. #55 appointing Andy Beaty to the Zoning Board, Wysocki seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye. Motion Approved.
- **Bonadio Audit-** 2013 Audit Report from Bonadio & Co., LLP. Completed.
 - **Resolution #56 Accepting the Bonadio Independent Auditors Report for 2013 Fiscal Year**
Motion to Approve
Sutton made the motion to accept Res. #56 accepting the auditor's report, Hyde seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.
- **Union Agreement-** with our highway workers expires at the end of the year. We will need to hire Attorney to represent the Town. We will also need a committee to work on this.
- **Employee W2 Issue & Health Insurance -**
Bookkeeper, Emily Sanders explained the problem that employees with health insurance were not taxed on it when they should have been. The W2's were corrected. In addition, software has been updated.
Surdam: said he is awaiting a phone call back from Denis Palyo our Health Ins. Rep. to get the necessary forms needed so the employees can continue to be not taxed on Health Ins. It will cost the Town a \$100. all employees will need to sign off. If necessary we will hold an emergency meeting to resolve this issue.
- **Emergency Management Plan-** All Board Members were given a copy of this law for review that is outdated and needs to be updated.
- **2015 Budget Amendment –Resolution**
 - **Resolution #57 Accepting the Donation of \$300. From The Fraternal Order Of Eagles To Be Used Towards The Lifeguard Training And Modifying The Town Budget.**
Motion to Approve
Patire made the motion to accept the donation and make the necessary budget adjustments, Sutton seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.
- **2015 Budget Amendment-** Resolution for Insurance Check
 - **Resolution # 58 Accepting Insurance Check of \$29,017 for total loss of a dump truck and make the necessary Budget Modifications**
Motion to Approve
Sutton made the motion to approve Res. #58 for the Insurance check, Wysocki seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion approved.
- **High Speed Internet Survey-** Residents in the Town will be receiving a Survey from Rensselaer County. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO FILL THIS SURVEY OUT AND RETURN IT ASAP. According to NYS most of our town if not all of it is has access to high speed internet. Please remember there is a difference between having internet service and having high speed internet service. Although we are working on this issue ourselves through Hoosick Rising it is still important that the surveys be filled out and returned. Any survey questions should be directed to Linda VonDerHeide at 518-270-2921 or Lvonderheide@renesco.com.
- **Police Notice-** In recent weeks the area has been experiencing a number of ATV & Wood Splitter thefts from homeowner's properties. Please take precautions to secure these items and report all suspicious activity to the Police.
- **Resolution 1% sales Tax Extension**
Resolution #59 The Town of Hoosick Supports Renss. County's efforts to extend the additional one percent sales tax rate in the county commencing Dec. 1, 2015 through Nov. 30, 2017.
Motion to Approve
Sutton made the motion to approve Res. #59 in support of the 1% sales tax extension as stated, Hyde seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Sutton: aye, Patire: aye, Wysocki: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.

Adjournment

Sutton made the motion to adjourn the meeting pending signing of vouchers, Wysocki seconded, all ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #4 Vouchers: 135-2015 through 185-2015

General A	\$41,535.93
General B	\$4,467.42
Highway DA	\$18,449.38
Highway DB	\$4,685.36
Cap. Project H	\$1,608.04
Special Fire SF	\$19,125.00
T & A	\$5,518.54
TOTAL:	\$95,389.67

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Stradinger
Hoosick Town Clerk