

**Town of Hoosick
Special Board Meeting
Thursday April 30, 2015 6:00 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Supervisor Mark Surdam, Bruce Patire, Jenn Hyde, Jeff Wysocki (came in after resolutions)

Notice of Special Meeting: posted in Town Office Lobby on April 21, 2015

Resolutions

#60 Appoint Joyce Whalen to Fill The Vacancy on the Assessment Review Board with a term ending September 30, 2018.

Motion to Approve

Patire made the motion to approve the appointment, Hyde seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Patire: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.

#61 Authorizing the Establishment of a Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for Employees

Motion to Approve

Patire made the motion to approve resolution #61, Hyde seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hyde: aye, Patire: aye, Surdam: aye. Motion Approved.

Discussion on bringing High Speed Broadband to the Town of Hoosick rural areas.

Tom Valone has been in charge of this project through Hoosick Rising. He has contacted two different companies: Bounce Linx and Hudson Valley Communications.

Hudson Valley relies on state funding so they do not need to charge a customer installation fee.

Bounce Linx does not, they are 100% self

Valone stated he currently has Hughes Net and pays \$100. A month for 20 GB daytime and 20 GB evenings.

Bill Johnston, Local Development Corp: said they are endorsing broadband for the Town.

Both Johnston and Valone believe this has become a necessity for school children, and home based businesses. By bringing in high speed broadband, it is the first big step to improving Our Community.

Johnston stated he has Verizon and he pays approx.. \$90. A month for 10 GB.

Bouncelinx is providing a scale of usage. A basic package would cost \$59.95 for 100 GB.

They are also looking for a tax abatement of possibly 2 years. The Town Board would have to have an agreement and motion to approve.

Tony Rice, Town Assessor: said Bouncelinx towers are taxable. It is very difficult to access the value since there is hardly any guidelines from the State. It is possible to go with a cost approach instead.

By allowing the tax abatement for a given period of time it would absorb the installation fees to customers of \$200 per home.

Patire: Agrees we definitely need to go forward with getting more information and working out some kind of an agreement.

Surdam: The Town needs to do more research and come up with some terms. He has asked the Town Attorney to make sure there are no legal issues. Surdam is waiting to hear from the Greenwich Town Supervisor to see how they are doing with the Hudson Valley Communications that their Town has. Bouncelinx will have to go through the appropriate channels for permits starting with the Building Inspector, then either the Planning or Zoning Board.

Adjournment

Patire made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Hyde seconded. All Ayes Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Stradinger
Hoosick Town Clerk