

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, May 9, 2016**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Supervisor Mark Surdam, Eric Sheffer, Dave Sutton, Jeff Wysocki, Jen Hyde (absent)

Supervisor Surdam told those in attendance that the Board would be switching the agenda a bit tonight. We will start with the Town Historian and his history board. Deb Alter interrupted and said that we would not be doing that board but a different one tonight. At which time the Town Historian, Phil Leonard, was honored for his 90th birthday. Supervisor called a five minute recess after acclamations were given.

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

Reports – Monthly Operating Statement, Abstract of Vouchers and Revenues have been issued to the Town Board, Clerk, Highway Superintendent, Assessor and Recreation Supervisor.

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

- **Penny Acree** – Purchased property on Frazier Lane, which intersects with Mahar Road. Part of the property has multiple owners/users, including the NHFD. For the safety of those who use the road she is asking that the Board consider extending Frazier Lane and make it a town road.
- **Gail Smith** – Voice of a Vet – Making Memorial Day more about the vets who served our country rather than about picnics and parade's. On May 21 from 1 pm – 3 pm at the Community Alliance Church there will be events held. Everyone invited and there will be stories from the home front written by WWI Vet Edward Canfield, Adopt a Serviceman roll-out, including an opportunity to purchase a detailed cross memorial in honor of a Town of Hoosick serviceman who died while serving his country as well as a ceremony at Maple Grove Cemetery honoring these serviceman.

Correspondence/Announcements

- We have received word from Rensselaer County Legislative Chairman Stan Brownell that the County has received an offer to purchase the 1 Mechanic St. property from Trojan Steel. The legislature will be voting on the offer Tuesday night. This is great news for our Town and Village.
- Congratulations to Bernard R. Davock for obtaining the Rank of Eagle Scout through The Boy Scouts of America Troop 6063
- Thank You notes received from the St Patricks Day Parade Committee and Browns Brewing.

Town Clerk's Report

- HF 4 Season Softball - Clarification of rink use request on rainy days.
 - Supervisor Surdam reported that this is a not-for-profit organization. It was formed to make a better softball team and is a club more than it being a team. Any money donated or collected will be used to purchase equipment that is needed.
 - Superintendent Shiland said that there would be a couple of days where the rink would not be able to be used because of the Castle Playground equipment being assembled at the rink.
 - Councilperson Sutton suggested that since this is for the kids and is a not-for-profit club that there be no charge for the use of the rink on rainy days. All agreed.
- May's report total: \$2,789 – Remitted to the Supervisor \$997.84

- Facilities Use Request:
 - HFCS requesting the use of the pool for recreation purposes on June 23 from 8:45 – 9 am until 12 pm. Total participants: 8 adults; 77 children; Grand total 85. C.O.I. received.
 - **Motion to Approve**
Sutton made the motion to allow HFCS use of the Pool on June 23, Wysocki seconded.
All Ayes Carried.

Assessor's Report

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Cutting & Trimming Trees around Pool** – Update
 - Superintendent Shiland reported that the cutting and trimming would begin in three weeks and would be completed before the pool opened.
- **Roads** – Update
 - Superintendent Shiland reported that they have been grading down a few roads and preparing them for paving. They will start soon to do more roads because we still have money left over from last year and it needs to be spent so that we receive our CHIP money.
 - Councilperson Sutton inquired about the playground and what would be needed to get it ready for the installation of the playground equipment as he may have machines that he would be able to help with getting the area ready.
 - Shiland responded with a few types of machinery needed.

Town Historian

- Phil Leonard will make his presentation at the June meeting since he was recognized for his 90th birthday

Recreation Report

- **Community Pool**- We will be working with NYS DOH, DEC and Rensselaer County Dept. of Health to open the pool this year. The plan right now is to drain & clean the pool then refill with Village water.
- **Pool Slide Fundraiser- needs a project champion.** We have started to raise funds for a slide but we really need someone or some group to take on this project. **Update- Hoosick Falls Kiwanis has offered to be the Project Champion after the Castle Playground Project is complete.**
- **2016 Pool Pricing**- Recommend all pool pricing remain the same as the 2015 price schedule with the exception of Resident per child Swimming Lessons increase from \$25 for a two week lesson to \$35, for 3 or more children increase price from \$50 to \$60. For Non-Resident increase the price from \$40 to \$50.
 - **Motion to Approve**
Sheffer made the motion to approve price increase for two week swimming lessons per child for residents, for 3 or more children and non-residents. Wysocki seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*
- **Certified Pool Operator (CPO) - Motion** to approve Supervisor Surdam to attend certification class to become a CPO.
 - Supervisor Surdam informed the Board that Nug Yavaniski is a certified pool operator but has decided he is no longer interested in working at the pool. No one else from the highway department is interested in working at the pool at this time. In order to get a certificate from the County to open the pool, there must be a CPO. There is an upcoming class to become a CPO and Supervisor Surdam will take the course and become a CPO.

- ***Motion to Approve***

Sutton made the motion to approve the Supervisor to take the course to become a CPO.
Wysocki seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

- **Reimbursing Lifeguards for Training- Discussion**

- Superintendent Surdam said the training for lifeguards cost \$300. In the past, we have reimbursed those who have gone for the training. He spoke with Janet DeLuca, who will be this year's pool manager, and she suggested that we reimburse over a three year period rather than all at once.
- Janet DeLuca explained that to give lifeguards the incentive to come back the following years, so that we do not have to keep training new lifeguards each year, we reimburse them \$100 each year, with final reimbursement payment made to them in their third year of lifeguarding.

- ***Motion to Approve***

Sutton made the motion to reimburse lifeguards for their training over a three year period.
Sheffer seconded. *All Ayes Carried*

- **Proposed Recreation Staff & Pay Scale for 2016-**

- Summer Day Camp Director- Rachel Green
Assistant Camp Director- TBD
Day Camp Councilors-
Returning from 2015
Tyler Rondeau
Elise North-Kirkman
John Lancour
Tyler Lindsey
Ayla Senecal
Mark Hackett

New
Megan Flynn
Nora Kipp
Madison Taber

Note - Tyler Rondeau is a Lifeguard who will assist with the Day Camp as needed.

- Pool Manager- Janet Deluca
Assistant Pool Manager & Swimming Program Coordinator- Katherine Danforth
Lifeguards & Staff-

Returning from 2015

Will Clifford
Wyatt Cushman
Victoria Hackett Gutkaiss
Shanee Heath
Alyssa Houghton
Tyler Rondeau
Elizabeth Ryan

New
Taylor Flohr
Thomas Holovach
Katelynn Hinchliffe
Ian MacVicar
Darrell Holovach
Leo McGuire

- Pay Scale for Staff-
\$9.00 hr. - Camp Councilor & Concession
\$9.50 hr. - Camp Counselor with CPR & First Aid
\$10.25 hr. - Life Guards
\$11.25 hr. - Life Guards with WSI Certification
\$12.25 hr. - Assistant Managers- One for Summer Camp & One for Pool
\$17.25 hr. - Managers
\$17.00 hr. - Leo McGuire

- ***Motion to Approve***
Sutton made the motion to approve proposed 2016 summer staff for the Town of Hoosick Day Camp & Community Pool with the proposed pay scale. Wysocki seconded.
All Ayes Carried.

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- We continue to stay in touch with DEC & DOH representatives as needed. If you notice a reduced amount of DEC vehicles at the command center on Rte 7 it is due to DEC starting to scale back the size of the operation for installing the point of entry filtration systems. Water testing, system approvals and the certification to start using the water for cooking and drinking is increasing. To date 713 POET systems have been installed, of that 374 have been cleared to use.
- Met with Hwy Superintendent Shiland & Nug Yavaniski ref to pool operations this summer. Nug is a certified pool operator but has decided he is no longer willing to work at the pool. No one else from the highway department is interested in working at the pool at this time.
- Hwy Superintendent Shiland and I met with Leo McGuire at the pool to discuss having him help with the physical operation/cleaning of the pool and the required water testing. We will work together along with pool manager and other summer staff as needed to make sure the pool stays clean, safe and that all required water test are completed and reported.
- I signed up to take the 2 day Certified Pool Operators (CPO) class as we need to have a CPO to receive the pool permit from Rensselaer County.
- I have been working on obtaining a letter from DEC & DOH that states the plan we have in place to drain, rinse and refill the pool with Village water is acceptable. The County has indicated that they will need to see something in writing before the pool permit will be issued. The letter is expected 5/9.
- I attended the pre-construction meeting at the Castle Playground.
- I attended the Earth Day Celebration and the kick off to the I Heart Hoosick community programs. Thank you Garry & Kelly and the Browns Brewing staff for hosting this event. Many of the workers from the NYS DOH & DEC attended the event.
- We held an informational meeting with representatives from Bright Energies to continue to gather information on the commercial solar arrays.
- I attended a meeting to discuss way to promote our community with Mayor Borge and others.

Town Council Reports

- **Deputy Supervisor Wysocki**
Solar Committee Report: Mr. Bugee has resigned from the Solar Committee.
 - Sutton asked if there was any particular reason given for his resignation
 - Wysocki said no particular reason given. Possible frustration.There was no meeting in May. Because of no meeting nothing has been unified yet. Philpott has received DER money.
- **Councilperson Hyde**
Absent

- **Councilperson Sutton**

Brighter Energy to give information on solar usage.

The sign at the intersection of Rt 7 and Rt 22 needs painting. Suggested that maybe something could be painted underneath the sign, like the Village's sign as you come into the Village. Since there are many artists within the Town maybe we offer to them to paint something to put under the sign.

A news article in Sunday's Times Union had a very negative impact concerning the water problems and Mayor Borge. Asks the Board to maybe consider passing a Memorandum of Support for the Mayor in lieu of the unfavorable press.

- **Councilperson Sheffer**

Towns Liability Insurance Policy: Insurance proposal came in last week and was reviewed. Our liability has increased 2% from last year due to claims with NYMER. Our cost will go from \$30,986 to \$31,605.

- ***Motion to Approve***

Sutton made the motion to approve the 2% increase in our liability insurance which will raise our cost from \$30,986 to \$31,605. Wysocki seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

Renting Land for Land-Based Solar Arrays April meeting: Co-operative Extension agree on the land-based solar arrays.

Old or Ongoing Business

- **Revaluation Project-** Suggestion has been made to delay project for a year due to water contamination issue and the effect it will have on property values. **Motion** to move the time table to begin the revaluation project from 2016 to 2017.
 - Supervisor Surdam asked for thoughts on what the Board felt about delaying the revaluation project one year due to the water contamination issue and property values going down because of it.
 - Sutton said that revaluation has not happened in 40 years. He asked what takes place in the first year of this three year plan and if we delay one year what will that do
 - Surdam explained that the first year of this plan is to find a company to work with us to look at the properties and put together a report of what properties are of equal value. No reassessment would be done in the first year. That would not happen until the third year of the plan.
 - Sutton again stated that revaluation has not happened in 40 years and if all that is happening in the first year is to gather information he did not see why we should not proceed forward with the plan. By the time the actual reassessment takes place we should have some idea as to how much property values have gone down, if any. He suggested that the Supervisor ask those in attendance their thoughts.
 - Lisa Rivet suggested that maybe we should talk to the banks and realtors in town to get their thoughts on how much they feel property values will lower.
 - Deb Alter stated that she just did an article on the matter and did talk with the banks and realtor's in town and it is just too soon to be able to predict that information. There are a lot of different factors that come into play when figuring that information out.
 - Sutton said he does not feel the project should be delayed and that the Town should proceed as planned.
 - Surdam asked Councilperson Sheffer and Wysocki their thoughts and the both agreed that we should proceed forward and not delay the project.

- **Hoosick Falls Kiwanis Castle Playground Project- Volunteers Needed- Thursday May 19th 1pm-6pm, Friday May 20th 8am-7pm & maybe Saturday May 21st**
 - *Build Event Schedule* is on our web site www.townofhoosick.org Kiwanis contact person is Wendy Larson, wenlar121@yahoo.com
- **NYS Parks & Recreation Grant-Pool Project Phase Two-** LaBerge Engineering has begun the planning process to update the Pump House & the Bath House. We hope to begin work on this project after the swim season is over.
- **Private Well Water Testing-** NYS Dept. of Health continues the testing of private wells for PFOA's in the Town of Hoosick. If your well has not been tested please call 1-800-801-8092 to schedule an appointment. The DOH continues to update the map that they have developed showing the areas of concern. To see the latest version of the map go to the Village Web Site @ www.villageofhoosickfalls.com on the right side of the page is a link to the Hoosick Falls Water Website; from here you can find the map, public test results, the latest news and information pertaining to this situation.
- **Water Contamination Issue- General Discussion**
 - **May Update-** The number of people seeking access to DEC staff at the Armory during the ongoing Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday availability sessions has dwindled to near zero. While the effort has been very successful for the transfer of information over the past few months, the need for such intensive availability seems to have run its course. Therefore, DEC will no longer be sending staff as a matter of routine to the Armory for these sessions. NYS Health Dept. will continue to staff the Armory per the current schedule.
 - Hotline- 1-800-801-8092
 - Water is still available for free @ Tops
 - Well Water Testing Request Forms & Bio monitoring Forms are available on information table @ Armory, from NYSDOH, Town & Village web sites.
 - In-Home Water Filtration Options for Household Drinking Water- Information is available on table @ Armory, from NYSDOH, Town & Village web sites along with other information on the PFOA contamination issue.
 - ***Please Contact NYSDEC or EPA if you know or suspect where there may be dump sites in the Town of Hoosick.***
 - Supervisor Surdam reported that there are 1,500 private wells within the Town of Hoosick and so far 1,012 have been tested. He encouraged Town residents to get their wells tested if they have not done so. He informed those in attendance that things are starting to calm down and if they know anyone who has not had their well tested to pass the word along that they should before time runs out and they will no longer be paying for the testing to be done as well as the POET systems which cost over \$3,000.
 - Sutton said he did not expect to have any PFOA's in his private well because he was so far out and above the level of where the contamination was but he had his well tested to only find out he has levels in his well. He suggested that maybe the Town do some kind of mailing, newspaper ad or television ad or some other method of reaching out to home owners suggesting they get their well tested if they have not done so yet. He said he does not know which would be best as some people say they don't watch television or get the newspaper. Maybe a blanket mailing would be best.
 - Lisa Rivet suggested maybe doing a PSA and that would not cost the Town anything compared to doing a blanket mailing

- Sutton said that the Town cannot force anyone to get their well tested if they do not want to do so but like with any crisis there is a time when it is on a rise, then it comes to a peak and then it will start to decline and while the money is there residents should take advantage of it and get their wells tested before the money is gone.
- **POET Systems-** Any home owner who has a system installed needs to pay attention to all information on the flyer that is handed out. No one should be drinking or cooking with the water even after the POET system has been installed and flushed until the water has been tested and DEC or DOH has contacted you directly with the okay.
- **EPA Update-** the EPA has provided an update dated May 5, 2016 on a soil and water sampling schedule at and near Saint-Gobain McCaffery St. This update is available on both the Town & Village web sites or at the Town Office.

New Business

- **Resolution, 2016 Budget Transfer- To Move Funds Between Budgeted Accounts. No Transfers Needed This Month.**
- **Resolution #55, 2016 Budget Modification- To Amend The 2016 Budget For Castle Playground Equipment**

Motion to Approve

Sutton made the motion to approve res. #55, 2016. Sheffer seconded. Roll Call Votes: Sheffer, aye; Sutton, aye; Wysocki, aye; Surdam, aye; Hyde absent. Motion Approved.

- **Resolution #56, 2016 Budget Modification – To Amend The 2016 Budget For Environmental Attorney Fees- PFOA Contamination Related Expenses**

Motion to Approve

Sutton made the motion to approve res. #56, 2016. Wysocki seconded. Roll Call Votes: Sheffer, aye; Sutton, aye; Wysocki, aye; Surdam, aye; Hyde absent. Motion Approved.

- **MRB Proposed Engineering Study and Report for Water & Sewer Expansion Projects**
 - Rich DeGuida, a representative from MRB, explained the proposal. What his firm would do is prepare an Engineering report that would be submitted to EFC regarding the extension of water and sewer into the Town. This would be a joint report with the Village. This report must be submitted but August in order for them to review and decide what level of funding we will be given. This must be tied into the PFOA issue.
 - Sutton asked what the cost was for the extension of the water and sewer.
 - Mr. DeGuida said it was \$24,000 for water and \$22,000 for sewer. That is a discounted price because it would be a joint effort with the Village and the Village would be splitting the cost with the Town.
 - Sutton asked if we know what kind of funding we would be receiving
 - Mr. DeGuida said there is no way right now to know how much funding we may receive as it all depends on the Engineering report. There are also grants, low interest loans and possibly zero interest loans that could be available if we do not get full funding.
 - Kevin Allard stated that he felt it was the duty of the Board to the taxpayers to just go with this firm. That there must be other firms who do this sort of thing and that maybe the Town should do an RFP.

- Sutton felt that since we just received this proposal the day of the meeting that more time was going to be needed to review everything and discuss before a decision could be made. That a decision at the meeting was not feasible.
- Surdam agreed as well as the other Board members.
- **Assurance Form from HFCS concerning their Green PEP Grant Project**
 - Supervisor Surdam read an Assurance Form asking the Town of Hoosick to serve as a support system for the health and physical programming for the HFS. This would include working with the health and physical coordinator, county organizations and agencies to promote an annual student-parent outreach program targeted to increase sound nutritional habits and physical activity levels across the HFS district. When the PEP Grant is over the Hoosick Town Board will support the HFS district's School Health Advisory Council and promote at least one parent outreach even on an annual basis.
 - Sutton asked for a bit more clarification as to what it is that they are looking for from the Town. Is it financial support, use of Town facilities or something else.
 - Surdam said he believed it is similar to a memorandum of support, like we've done in the past for other towns within the county for a project they are trying to get approved or disapproved.
 - Sutton said if that is all they are looking for then he is in favor of signing it.

Motion to Approve

Sheffer made the motion to have Supervisor Surdam sign the Assurance Form from HFCS in support of their project. Wysocki seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

- **Planning/Zoning**

Penny Acree has decided not to seek the open seat on the Zoning Board and will remain on the Planning Board. Bruce Patire would like to be appointed to the open seat on the Zoning Board that was recently held by Joe MacDonald.

Motion to Approve

Wysocki made the motion to appoint Bruce Patire to the vacant seat on the Zoning Board, that was previously held by Joe MacDonald, for a 5 year term that will go through April 30, 2021. Sheffer seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

- **Scheduled Meetings**

Zoning Board meets the First Monday of the month, **Planning Board** meets the fourth Monday of the month, both in the Court Room of the Armory. Meeting minutes are available online @ www.townofhoosick.org or from the Town Clerk.

- **Executive Session**

To enter into executive session to discuss FOIL Request- On the Town's Recent Request From NYS ref # W005102-031716 and Cipperly Road Litigation

- Supervisor Surdam asked for a motion to be made for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss a FOIL request

Motion to Enter Executive Session

Sutton made the motion to enter into Executive Session.

- Kevin Allard stated that the Board cannot go into Executive Session for a FOIL request unless it is of a legal matter
- Surdam said the FOIL request is of a legal matter and to also discuss the Cipperly Road Litigation

Motion to Enter Executive Session at 9:02 pm

Sutton had already made the motion. Sheffer seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

Motion to Exit Executive Session 9:37 pm

Wysocki made the motion to exit Executive Session. Sutton seconded. *All Ayes Carried*

- ***Adjournment 9:38 pm***

Wysocki made the motion to adjourn the meeting pending signing of vouchers. Sutton seconded. *All Ayes Carried.*

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Blinstrub
Hoosick Deputy Town Clerk