

**Town of Hoosick  
Regular Board Meeting  
Monday April 8, 2024 7:00 pm**

**Called to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** Jerry McAuliffe, Jackie Houghton, Eric Sheffer, William Hanselman and Supervisor Mark Surdam.

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

- **Diane Davendonis:** Diane states that she lives on Lester Lane and would like to know when this road is going to get paved. She states that they measured the road awhile ago and she has not seen anyone do any work since.
- **Don Lurie-** Don states that Scott Street is a bad place to be right now. There is a lot of drug activity going on there and it really needs to be addressed. He also states that he owns a trailer on that street and has a squatter that he is not able to get out of his place. He was looking for help from the Town in getting this person out of his trailer.

**Correspondence/Announcements**

- **Hoosick Township Historical Society** April 2024 Newsletter is available @ [www.hoosickhistory.com](http://www.hoosickhistory.com) featuring articles by Carol Gaillard about William Francis Carey, The Landon-Knox Club, and local Explorer Simon Fraser.
- **Upcoming Events @ Bennington Battlefield**
  - Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6pm First Tour of the Season.
  - I Love My Park Day 2024 Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm.
  - Tour of Bennington Battlefield Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6pm.
  - Hoosick History & Heritage Fair Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm.
  - Memorial Day Program: Weaponry in the Battle of Bennington Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 11am-1pm.
- **Solar Array Letters-** The Town Board has received numerous letters objecting to hilltop solar arrays, removal of forested areas, asking we protect rural areas, and follow our Comprehensive Plan.
- **National Grid-** The Northeast Clean Resilience Link Flyer

**Town Clerk's Report**

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- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk’s report for the month of February is as follows: \$1,180.50 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$962.03.
- **Facility Use- Hoosac School Sports Team Practices.** Use of the rink April 2<sup>nd</sup> -April 5<sup>th</sup> from 3-5.

**MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion to approve the Hoosac School to use the skating rink for sports practice. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Facility Use- North Hoosick Fire Department.** Use of the rink June 29<sup>th</sup> for fireworks and band.

**MOTION**

Hanselman made the motion to approve the North Hoosick Fire Department to use the rink for Fireworks and Band for June 29<sup>th</sup>. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Town and County Taxes-** Taxes have been completed and will be turned over to the county this week (April 10<sup>th</sup>).

**Superintendent of Highway’s Report**

- **Report-** Paul states that they continue to work on roadsides. He called Peckham’s for pricing on chip seal for at least 5 miles of road for this year. Paul states that pricing has gone up and is sure that the pricing is going to be expensive. He also states that we lucked out with the wind/snowstorm that came through. There were minimal trees down and very little accumulation of snow on the roads. The county will be setting up the rabies clinic on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the highway garage from 1-5. This time has changed from the original time.
- **Cottrell Road Bridge Update-** The project has been recommended for funding by the Capital Region Transportation Council, waiting to hear back from the 2023 Bridge NY Program.
- **Town of Hoosick Road Asset Management Plan-** Final report to be reviewed.
- **Culvert Project- Farmers Inn Rd. Update-** Supervisor Surdam has signed an agreement with Foit-Albert Associates for design work to replace the culvert at a cost of \$2,400. We will be working with Wayne Bonesteel.
- **Tate Rd. (near Markers Rd.)-** Paul is working with Wayne Bonesteel to see if the culvert can be replaced by the town with a 5–6-foot culvert design. Paul feels that this can happen.
- **Streetlights- No change, no update at this time.**
- **VT AOT Emergency Contact & 511 Information Form-** This is in reference to the 3 railroad bridges on the Vermont Rail Systems line that are scheduled for work that has begun and will continue through October 2024.
- **New Truck-** Paul reports that the truck will be built in August, delivered to Alligence in September, and then go to Zwack’s for the body in November.

**Assessor’s Report**

- **Report:** Tiffany was not present at the meeting as she is attending her last training session for assessor. Tony will be in the office filling in while she is out.
- **GAR/TOH Property Revaluation Project Update- Additional information is available on the Town website [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org)**
- **Notice of Tentative Railroad Ceiling-** We have received this notice from NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance.

**Town Historian**

- **Report-** Rick was not available for the meeting.

**Code Enforcement**

- **Report-** Jared supplied his report to the board via email and the report has been filed with the Town Clerk’s office.

**Recreation**

- **Pool and Summer Camp-**Ashley stated that the summer camp paperwork is almost complete and ready to be submitted to the county. Stewarts granted the camp \$500 for the holiday match for the camp to use. Ashley stated that she has found a vacuum for the turf and would like to send it to the board for review. **Pool-**Supervisor Surdam states that we are having a hard time with getting someone to run the pool this year. He approached Ashley and Noreen to get things started for the season so that everything could be in place for the pool to open. The biggest worry is having the help and filling the positions for lifeguards.
- **The Town is accepting applications for these positions.**
  - **Pool Manager**
  - **Pool Assistant Manager**
  - **Lifeguards**

**Supervisor Surdam’s Report**

- Attended the St. Patrick’s Day Parade.
- Held a meeting with LaBerge to review ZBA Operating and Meeting Procedures.
- Summer Camp meeting with Ashley.
- Attended the CPWG meeting.
- Met with Nick Collins from Fortified Vision, LLC ref upgrading security system at the pool and the playground.
- Meeting prep and agenda.

**Town Council Reports**

**Deputy Supervisor Sheffer-** Eric stated that the military banners have been submitted by the Legion to the printing company and they hope to have them back, so they are able to be up for Memorial Day weekend. The Comp Plan has been received in digital format so that changes can be made on our end. Solar committee has a scheduled meeting to discuss changes.

**Councilperson McAuliffe-** Jerry states that on Route 7 between the lamp shop area up to McNeilly’s floral shop there are no lines, or they are very faded.

**Councilperson Hanselman-** Bill states that the ad for the roof for the rink was placed. Holli received one bid from Barry LaPorte. This was given to Bill for review to make sure the specs have been met. Bill also has received information on a vacuum for the turf. He will get together with Ashley to see what the best option for the turf would be.

**Councilperson Houghton-** Jackie states that the quotes have been received for the lining and coating of the courts. She also received a quote for the fence, poles, and brace for along side the courts. The lining and coating of the courts will be done by Crafc0 for a price of \$62,165. This price was not out for bid as we used the County Contract (OGS Pricing). Falls Fence quoted a price of \$20,807 to do the fence, poles and to add a brace so that the fence will not bow at the bottom.

**MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion to approve both the lining/coating of the courts with Crafc0 for a price of \$62,165 and the fence, poles, and to add the brace. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

### New Business

- **North Hoosick Fire Dept. Service Reward Program- Motion** authorizing Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2023 Sponsor Authorization Form on behalf of the Town of Hoosick.

#### MOTION

Sheffer made a motion to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2023 Sponsor Authorization form on behalf of the Town of Hoosick. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Village Construction of New Water Supply to begin soon.** Supervisor Surdam stated that the construction of the new water supply will begin soon. They will be doing horizontal drilling and are going to try not to disrupt the school schedule.
- **Pool/Playground Camera System Upgrade Project-** Supervisor Surdam met with Fortified Vision regarding the camera system upgrade at the pool/playground. Recording on this system would be possible and the system would potentially have to have a stronger Wi-Fi connection.
- **Reynolds/Gilchrist Building Rental-** The board discussed the scheduling, billing, and cleaning of the facility for rink and pool rental. Right now, the price is set at \$60 per hour for the use of the rink. Hanselman feels that this price should be more. The board agreed and set the price for this at \$100 per hour. The board also discussed that it may be time to bring back the position of Recreation Director to coordinate the rink and pool. This would include the scheduling and billing of the rink/pool and to be responsible for making sure that the facilities are clean after the rental.
- **Rabies Clinic-** The clinic is set for May 4<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 at the Town Garage. Appointments are required for the clinic.
- **Hoosick Falls CSD is working with National Grid to apply for a grant as part of the Northeast Clean Resilience Link. We did send a letter of support.**
- **Unity House- Area Mobil Unit.** The parking lot outside of the armory is County owned. This would be up to the county for the unit to be parked in the lot. The other part of the lot is village owned and they would have to approach the village for this.
- **Another Bogus Email-** Supervisor Surdam would like to make sure that we are all staying diligent in regard to emails. Be sure to review before opening any links associated with these types of emails.
- **Zoning Board Attorney Appointment-**Supervisor Surdam stated that the Zoning Board attorney is going to be replaced with an attorney from Trainor, Pezzulo, and DeSanto, PLLC. The cost will be \$1,000/month (\$12,000 annually) and any additional work will be billed at \$200 per hour. This cost is more than what it has been but overall will average out to be about the same.

#### MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the attorney for the zoning board. This would be **Resolution #47**. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Commercial Windmills Moratorium - Motion to approve Local Law No. 4 of 2024,** A local law establishing a temporary Land Use Moratorium prohibiting Commercial Windmill installations within the Town of Hoosick. This was tabled until May. We have not received any word back from the county regarding the economic impact study.

### Old Business

- **Zoning Law re-writes update-** Updates will proceed with the new Solar Law Updates when complete.
- **Troy & Banks, Inc. Utility rebate search- Update-** The project is completed. We have received some rebates.
- **Shared Communication Position-** No Update currently but the school is still working on it.
- **Comprehensive Plan- Proposed completed plan is available for review. The new Solar Law Review Committee will be reviewing as part of the Solar Law Review Project.**
- **Proposed Comp Plan document changes-** Point person discussion to make updates to the electronic draft we have. Supervisor Surdam will be the point person to make all the changes to the electronic version of the Comp plan and Deputy Supervisor Sheffer will be the back-up for this.
- **Rensselaer County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Plan-** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4-6pm 99 Troy Road in East Greenbush. Supervisor Surdam, Jerad and Paul will attend.
- **Shovel Ready Projects-** Supervisor Surdam is looking for ideas for the projects that we may be able to submit to Elise Stefanik. Supervisor Surdam is thinking about the rink that was on the original SAM grant and possible playground expansion.

**Executive Session- Motion** to enter Executive Session to discuss two personnel issues and for consulting with our Town Attorney referencing possible litigation.

**ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:38PM**

#### **MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss two personnel issues and for consulting with our Town Attorney referencing possible litigation. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

**EXITED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:09 PM**

#### **MOTION**

McAuliffe made the motion to exit the executive session with no decisions made. Surdam seconded the motion. All ayes carried. No decisions were made in the executive session.

*For specific questions about the public water supply: Email: [bpwsp@health.ny.gov](mailto:bpwsp@health.ny.gov), phone: 518-402-7650*

*For specific questions about private wells: Email: [beei@health.ny.gov](mailto:beei@health.ny.gov), phone: 518-402-7860*

*For specific questions about blood testing: Email: [beoe@health.ny.gov](mailto:beoe@health.ny.gov), phone: 518-402-7950*

New York State Water Quality Hotline, **800-801-8092**, is available, Monday-Friday 9am-8pm and Saturday 9am-3pm.

### **Scheduled Meetings-**

**Scheduled Meetings- Zoning Board** meets the First Monday of the month; **Planning Board** meets the third Monday of the month. These meetings are held at 7pm in the Court Room of the HAYC3 Armory. **The Planning Board meeting and the Zoning Board meeting will be held via ZOOM just as the regular monthly meeting was held.** Meeting minutes are available online @ [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org) or from the Town Clerk.

**Adjournment**

McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:10 p.m. pending the signing of vouchers, Hanselman seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

**Bills Paid Abstract #4 2024 Vouchers 101-152**

|                 |    |                 |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|
| General A       | \$ | 166,010.80      |
| General B       | \$ | 8,362.55        |
| Highway DA      | \$ | 412.48          |
| Highway DB      | \$ | 28,234.53       |
| Capital Fund H  | \$ | 6,380.66        |
| Fire Protection | \$ | -----           |
| Library         | \$ | -----           |
| Trust & Agency  | \$ | <u>5,017.71</u> |
| Total:          | \$ | 214,418.73      |

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross  
Town Clerk