

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday December 14, 2020 7:00 pm**

Our Town Board meeting is not open to the public due to Pause New York. The meeting can be seen live via the internet at Zoom.com or the Hoosick New York Facebook Page, note there is a Facebook link through the Town of Hoosick Web- Site www.townofhoosick.org.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: William Hanselman, Jerry McAuliffe, Eric Sheffer (Virtual), Supervisor Mark Surdam and Jackie Houghton (Virtual)

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.

- **We answered public questions throughout the meeting as they come in. There were no questions.**

COVID-19 Review, effects and discussion

- NYS Coronavirus hotline: 888-364-3065
- NYS Coronavirus emotional support hotline: 844-863-9314
- NYS Coronavirus website: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov>

Basic Precautions

- Practice Social Distancing.... Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Staying home when you are sick.
- Covering your coughs or sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Constantly practicing good hand hygiene.

Correspondence/Announcements -

- Received correspondence from Kathi Carknard regarding a donation in the amount of \$1,500 for purchasing new skates for the rink.
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Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report**-The Clerk's report for the month of September is as follows: \$6,530.00 remitted to the Supervisor was \$957.68.
- **Facilities Use Request**- None for the month
- **Records Retention Resolution- Motion** to approve the State of New York updated Local Government Record Retention and Disposition Schedule LGS-1.

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to approve the State of New York updated Local Government Record Retention and Disposition Schedule LGS-1. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

Assessor's Report

- **Assessment Review Board**- Still in need of one for the Board of Assessment review.
- **NYSAA calls on Assessors to help protect senior citizens.** This was a letter to the Governor to make the annual requirement for seniors exempt this year.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Bovie Hill Rd. guardrail update**- Town and County Bridge Rail is coming on 12/15 to give an estimate on the guardrail. Question was asked about the engineer report stating the amount of guardrail that is needed and pricing. Highway Superintendent Shiland would like to wait to see what the first estimate comes in at before obtaining another.
- **COVID-19 Staffing Discussion**- There was two drivers of the Highway Department that were exposed outside of work hours to Covid-19. They both had to quarantine. Suggestions were made to provide disinfectant wipes in all of the trucks to have the drivers wipe down the touched surfaces and to social distance in the garage as much as possible. Wear masks when not possible. The board also made the suggestion to check with the school to see if any of the bus drivers would be willing to drive if there was a need to in the situation of drivers having to quarantine.

Town Historian

- Phil spends time in the museum but limits himself to how many hours. Emma Hall has done work on the website. Liberty Cemetery will have a ceremony on December 19th at noontime. Each cross will have a wreath placed upon it. Hoosac will be doing the video presentation for all to see. The museum participated in small business Saturday. January 20th will be the town basket raffle. All products in the basket are from local businesses. Raffles can be purchased at the museum \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

Recreation

- **Rink Employees- Motion** to appoint the following for Rink Staff; Nicholas Houghton Ice Manager at a payroll rate of \$18.00 per hour and Tom Margiotta as a maintenance volunteer for 2020 & 2021.

MOTION

Hanselman made the motion to approve Nicholas Houghton Ice Manager at a payroll rate of \$18.00 per hour and Tom Margiotta as a maintenance volunteer for 2020 & 2021. McAuliffe Seconded. Jerry, Bill, Eric and Mark aye, Jackie recused herself from the vote.

- **Rink employee pay with First Aid/CPR/AED Certification. Discussion.** After discussion of the rink employee pay, it was decided by the board to keep the pay rates as is but encouraged all of the employees to obtain their certificates.
- **Rink employee sweatshirts- Discussion.** The board discussed the purchase of sweatshirts for the employees. They all agreed that this will be very costly. The suggestion was made to buy safety vest instead of the sweatshirts.
- **EC Fund for the Town of Hoosick Youth Sports is making a \$1500 donation for Reynolds/Gilchrist Rink. Discussion**
- **Resolution-**There will need to be a resolution done at the next meeting for a check that was received in the amount of \$20,000 from Honeywell for attorney fees throughout the process of the water issue. This is only a payment and does not reflect any settlement.
- **1" Hannay hose reel for rink to hold and store the new 1" hose- Discussion.** Tom Margiotta found a hose reel for the amount of \$675. This will help keep the hose from being destroyed when not in use.

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the purchase of the hose reel for the rink. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

- A skate sharpener will also need to be purchased. The one that is at the rink will not sharpen the skates. Tom borrowed one from Bear Mountain for the purpose of sharpening the skates that we already have. There are also a few pairs of skates that will need to be purchased as well.

Supervisor Surdam's Report for September, October and November

- Held 2021 TOH Budget workshops, public hearings and completed the budget process.
- Completed and signed new Teamsters agreement.
- Met with Kim (pool) and Ashley (summer camp) to review the season and identify issues we may need to address for next season.
- Met with Jackie Berry from CIT ref new phone system.
- Have had a couple of meetings with Ayla ref upcoming rink season.
- I have been virtually attending the recent monthly CPWG meetings.
- Held a workshop to discuss the ongoing noise complaint from the motorcycle track in West Hoosick.
- I attended and completed the 2 day Certified Pool Operator class. Certification is good for 5 years.
- Completed the needed paperwork for the Rensselaer County Hazard Mitigation project which consisted of a time outline that I worked on the project for the Town and Village.
- Worked on Town Board meetings prep and agendas.

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer- There has not been much going on.

Councilperson McAuliffe- Jerry stated that the update for the railroad tracks is that they would receive an answer by Christmas Time. Bruce Patire called regarding the request and the answer he received is that the tracks will not be repaired where it had washed out in the July rainstorm three years ago and that the speed through there has been reduced. This was not the answer they anyone was looking for. Attorney Schopf will draft a letter to the railroad on behalf of the Town.

Councilperson Hanselman- Bill worked on getting the turf up into the racks for the winter months. Tom Margiotta assisted with this. Bill and Tom also worked on the gates to keep the sun from shining in on the ice. Tom sent a message to Bill during the meeting that he had located a hose reel on Amazon for \$499.

Councilperson Houghton- Nothing at this time.

New Business

- **2020 Inner Budget Transfer as requested- Motion** to approve as requested.

MOTION

Hanselman made the motion to approve the 2020 Inner Budget Transfer as requested.

McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **2020 Budget Modification-** None needed.
- **Local COVID-19 positive test spike in the Village & Town- Discussion.** Mayor Allen did a presentation "Season of Sacrifice". Supervisor Surdam just asks that everyone please wear your masks and social distance.
- **Executive Order #5 of 2020** for 30 days declaring a Disaster Emergency within the Town of Hoosick effective December 9th 2020 due to the large local spike in COVID-19 cases.
- **2021 Organizational Meeting- Discussion.** This is planned for the same night as our regular scheduled board meeting. The Organizational Meeting will start at 6:30pm
- **Rink Lighting- Discussion.** There are eleven Rink lights out and two more lights that are on the way out. There are is no lighting on the outside of the rink for the parking lot and around the back side of the rink. These need to be replaced for safety. Total cost to replace all the lights with LED lighting will be \$18,385. There is a rebate in the amount of \$3,332. With the rebate the cost would come down to \$15,053.

MOTION

Hanselman made the motion to approve the new lighting for the rink at the cost of \$15,053.

McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Bridge Project as presented by Hoosick Rising- Discussion.** The board discussed the idea of Hoosick Rising placing flowers along the shop bridge like there used to be. Question was raised by Councilperson Houghton that she liked the idea and would like to know who would be maintaining them. The board further discussed and had no objections with the flowers being placed on the shop bridge.
- **Youth Center Funding-** Due to the COVID-19 situation the Youth Center is asking to repurpose the funding from the Town to be used for heat and maintenance. **Motion** to approve. The

board discussed and would like someone from the Youth Center to come to the next board meeting and explain the situation. As the Board sees it the Youth Center has not been able to open and the extra money was supposed to be used for the purpose of opening and hasn't.

- **Comp Alliance 2021 Workers Compensation Funding Contribution- Motion to approve the 2021 funding contribution of \$30,631.00 (which does not include the NYS assessment) and authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2021 agreement.**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the 2021 funding contribution of \$30,631.00 (which does not include the NYS assessment) and authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2021 agreement. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

Old Business

- **On-Line General Town Code- Update.** We are through the first phase of the project. The draft was sent over for review. Attorney Schopf will review and update as needed. Zoning will be updated as well.
- **Naturae, LLC ongoing odor issue- Update/Discussion.** This will be further discussed in executive session.
- **Noise/Track issue- update & discussion.** Attorney Schopf has been going through the Land Use law and will be redoing the track information and definitions. The update will regulate the use on personal property for the owners and guests of the owner. Attorney Schopf found a law from Pennsylvania that he likes and will draft this in our Land Use. There will be other corrections to incorporate nuisances and noise as well. There will be a template for a Special Use Permit or a variance check list for the Planning/Zoning boards to use.
- **Spectrum Northeast, LLC Franchise Renewal Agreement- Discussion.** Attorney Schopf is concerned about the language in the agreement. This will be reviewed in January.
- **Woods Brook Project update- Update.** The Village is pushing through getting this finished up. Resident owners have met. This project goes from Johnson Hill Road down through to the Village.
- **Armory Phone System upgrade- Proposal discussion.** It will be less money to go to a new phone system similar to the one in the Village.
- **Public Employer Emergency Planning Requirement-** A new law signed by Governor Cuomo on 9/7/20 requires public employers to create plans to protect employees and contractors in the event of another public health emergency declaration in NYS- **Update Discussion**
- **Community Participation Work Group (CPWG) -** The CPWG is pleased to announce the launch of its new website, **HoosickAreaCPWG.org**, specific to remediation of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) contamination that has affected the Village of Hoosick Falls public drinking water supply and some Town of Hoosick private wells.
- **Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Grant has been awarded to us if we are still interested. Discussion Motion to move forward as previously planned to update the 2015 Town of Hoosick Comprehensive Plan.**
- **Armory Lease- Discussion.** There is an agreement but the agreement needs to be confirmed. This will be further discussed in the January meeting.

For specific questions about the public water supply: Email: bpwsp@health.ny.gov, phone: 518-402-7650

For specific questions about private wells: Email: beei@health.ny.gov, phone: 518-402-7860

For specific questions about blood testing: Email: 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 or from the Town Clerk.

- **Executive Session- Motion to enter into executive session to discuss Naturae, LLC ongoing odor issue.**

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to enter into executive session at 8:40pm. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Exited from Executive session**

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to exit executive session at 9:06pm. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

Adjournment

McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:06 pm pending the signing of vouchers, Hanselman seconded, all ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #12 2020 Vouchers 483-537

General A	\$	22,051.50
General B	\$	7,422.52
Highway DA	\$	2,850.11
Highway DB	\$	63,103.12
Fire Protection	\$	-----
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>5,106.54</u>
Total:	\$	100,533.79

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross
Town Clerk