

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday February 8, 2021 7:00 pm**

Our Town Board meeting is open to the public with limited seating available. 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, Supervisor Mark Surdam and Jackie Houghton

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.**

Correspondence/Announcements

- Letter from our Rensselaer County District 5 Reps Bruce Patire & Jeff Wysocki.
- St Patrick's Day Parade Committee Letter

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.
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Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report**-The Clerk's report for the month of September is as follows: \$1,152.50 remitted to the Supervisor was \$986.90.
- **Facilities Use Request**- None for the month, but received a call today regarding the use of the rink with the turf from Tom Husser. Mark will talk with him regarding the use of the rink and the issue that the Town is facing with the turf being layed down.
- **Key Bank Fee's Issue**- discussed the issue that was happening with the account. Mark stated that he has Jim working on a few things for an answer. I asked that the account be switched to another bank that will work with us and not charge these fees. Mark suggested we wait and see what Key Bank will do and we will move forward after that.

Assessor's Report

- **Assessment Review Board**- Still in need of one for the Board of Assessment review. Tony has been working on exemptions and processing the agriculture exemptions along with the not for profit exemptions.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Fuel/Sand Bids**- Bids were received from Bove, John Ray and Sons and Doug's Oil for fuel oil and diesel fuel. All bids were opened and read. Bid for Doug's Oil was the cheapest for fuel oil and diesel fuel. Bid was awarded to Doug's Oil for the year. Winter Sand Bid was received by Peckham. This was the only bid received. So the bid was awarded to Peckham for the year.

Motion

McAuliffe made the motion to accept the Doug's oil bid for Fuel Oil and Diesel Fuel. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

Motion

Sheffer made the motion to approve Peckham's bid for Winter Sand. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Bovie Hill Road**-Barriers have been placed where the guiderail had been down for repairs. Highway Superintendent Shiland III presented to the board a price of \$4,477.50 for 225 feet of guiderail for replacement but Town and County Bridges are not able to install this until spring due to layoffs for the winter.
- **Bucket Loader**-The new loader has been put to use these last couple of weeks loading salt and sand onto trucks. Highway Superintendent Shiland III states that it is working well.
- **Cottrell Road Bridge- Gov. Cuomo has announced \$200 million in Bridge NY Funding is available.** Discussion among the board and Highway Superintendent Shiland III regarding proposals on applying for funding with a grant for the Cottrell Road Bridge resulted in contacting LaBerge, Crayton & Manning and Wayne Bonesteel of Manzer.

Town Historian

- Phil continues to write stories for the newsletter that the museum sends out to the members. This past week he had written three stories. The museum still has the Levi Chandler Ball book that the museum was loaned to review. Joyce is checking on the option of getting this reproduced. The Maple Grove Cemetery Records are all up to date. Some of them are very

old and assist in genealogy research. Joyce will also check on these to see if they can be preserved. The museum is looking to digitalize the Standard Press's that they have. Joyce will be working with the Cheney Library to do a grant for this project.

Recreation

- **Rink- The schedule and the phone are available under Recreation at our web site www.townofhoosick.org . The phone number is 518-686-4833. COVID-19 protocols are in effect, please be prepared to provide contract tracing information upon entry.**
- **Ice Skating January Report-**
- **Zamboni- Update** Resurfix did come from NJ to our rink to perform a full evaluation on our 1976 Zamboni JRD for a rehab quote. As planned they did complete some tune up type maintenance work on the machine and Tom has mentioned a couple of times how much better the Zamboni is running. As of the meeting the Zamboni will not start and Tom is looking into why this happened. We are waiting on the rehab quote.
- **Recreation SAM Grant-** This is on hold for now. Nothing is moving at the state level.
- **Rink Lighting Project-** New Exterior Lights have been installed. We will try to coordinate interior light installation prior to installing the turf.
- **Rink Sound System Project- Motion** to purchase the sound system quoted by Pro-Acoustics for \$5258.58. Most of the board members would like to wait on this to see how much the Zamboni is going to cost to get it up and running properly.
- **Sound System Installation-** A quote was received on this and it was for \$4,000. All the board members felt this was a bit high to just install speakers and the sound system. This will also be put on hold for now.
- **School using the rink for spring sports-** This was discussed earlier. Mark will contact Tom Husser with the outcome of using the rink for Fall 2 sports.
- **Pool-** It's time to start thinking about and planning for the 2021 pool season. **Motion** to appoint Kim Brownell as the 2021 Pool Manager and Mark Surdam & Tom Marciotta as the volunteer Certified Pool Operators.
Motion
- Houghton made the motion to appoint Kim Brownell as the 2021 Pool Manager and Mark Surdam & Tom Marciotta as the volunteer Certified Pool Operators. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

Supervisor Surdam's Report for September, October and November

- The Town Board had a Special Meeting in Executive Session with our Attorney's in ref to the PFOA contamination issue. The purpose of the meeting was to review the current overall situation, review our status and discuss our plans moving forward.
- Signed and returned all of the required \$200,000 Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) legal documents. Green County Commercial Bank was the low bidder @ 0.54%.
- I've been helping with the phone system conversion as far as the paperwork and supplying any needed information.

- Eric & I virtually attended the monthly Community Participation Work Group (CPWG) meeting.
- I met with Attorney Brian Lyda & Ken Lorenz ref Brian representing the Town on the Planning Board as the Planning Board Attorney replacing Stanton King who recently retired after many years as the Planning Board Attorney.
- I met with Dave Borge who is on the Armory Board of Directors and Scott Hogan from the Center for Security in ref to security needs in the Armory.
- I attended a virtual meeting with NYS DEC with some members of the CPWG in ref to DAR-1 Air Emissions. DAR=Division of Air Resources.
- We held a Comprehensive Plan kick off meeting with members of the Zoning Board, Planning Board, Town Board and consultants from LaBerge. The Comprehensive Plan can also be referred to as the Town of Hoosick general plan, master plan or land-use plan. NYS suggest the plan be updated every 10 years. Our original plan was completed in 2004 and the Board agreed to continue using the plan with no changes in 2015. We are taking advantage of some partial funding through a Grant provided by Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities that will assist in reviewing and updating this plan. There are going to be opportunities for community involvement in the next few months.
- I went with Code Officer Rogers to Naturae, LLC and met with two of the facility managers for an ongoing odor issue.
- Worked on the meeting agenda.
- I have signed up to virtually attend some of the Association of Towns (AOT) annual meeting and classes.

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer- Eric stated that in a week or so the packet for insurance should be arriving for the renewal. He states that this should be easy as the appraisals for everything was just done last year. Eric also mentioned that a letter from the town and village should be done and sent to Price Chopper in respect to the merger just announced Monday. Tops Market is a very vital part of this community and this will need to be addressed with them so they know that this store is important to the community members. Armory Board would like to have written protocols between the Armory and the Town stating who is responsible for what for the winter months. Also moving forward once everything is able to start opening back up, who will be responsible for the scheduling of events in the Armory.

Councilperson McAuliffe- Jerry stated that on January 12th there was a boiler issue at the Rectory of the Immaculate Conception Church. He was called just after 911 was called and to his surprise all of the fire departments involved with the call responded in a matter of minutes with no second thought. He is very thankful for all of the volunteer firefighters that we have in our community and the knowledge that they all carry in doing a volunteer job.

Councilperson Hanselman- Bill did not have anything this month.

Councilperson Houghton- Jackie would like to address the Solar Panel issue. She states that she has been receiving an email from the same company over and over again and would like to know what that was all about.

New Business

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

Motion

Houghton made the motion to approve the 2020 Inner Budget Transfer as requested. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Budget Modification(s) None required.**

- **Local COVID-19-** Cases had been on the rise in the last couple of weeks and seem to be going back down. The Bennington Vermont area seemed to be having a bit of the same but has since stabilized. Supervisor Surdam stated that SVMC states that they have not had any Flu cases as of yet this year.

- **Town Court Audit- Resolution # 51 of 2021 Motion** to approve the 2020 Town Court Audit which was completed by the Town Board on January 19th 2021.

Motion

Houghton made the motion to approve the 2020 Town Court Audit which was completed by the Town Board on January 19th, 2021. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation June 16th 2020 purchase of 23.1 acres of land located at 5154 State Highway 67.-** This was just a letter advising of the transfer of property and no action is required.

- **Renewal of Pollution Policy that covers the tanks at the Highway Garage- Motion** to approve the quote from Marshall & Sterling, Inc. for \$518 for one year and to Authorize Supervisor Surdam to execute the renewal.

Motion

Sheffer made the motion to approve the quote from Marshall & Sterling, Inc. for \$518 for one year and to Authorize Supervisor Surdam to execute the renewal. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Vacant Property Registry-** Supervisor Surdam has submitted access request through NYS Department of Financial Services. A letter was received acknowledging receipt of the request.
- **Battlefield letter of support-** David Pitlyk from NYS Parks has requested a letter of support for another grant application to the American Battlefield Protection Program for additional archaeology at the site- The board agreed that a letter of support should be submitted to the American Battlefield Protection Program for additional archaeology at the site. Supervisor Surdam will send.
- **Friends of Bennington-** Jonah Spivak & Peter Schaaphok have requested to give the Board a presentation at the March Meeting in reference to the beginning of planning for the 250th celebration of the Battle of Bennington.
- **Planning Board Attorney- Resolution #17 of 2021** to appoint Brian Lyda as the new Planning Board Attorney for 2021. **Note-** This resolution was tabled at the 2021 Organizational Meeting. This will be discussed in executive session tonight after the meeting.

- **Environmental Consultant- Motion** to retain Sam Gowan Phd,PG,CPG who is President & Senior Geologist at Alpha Geoscience in Clifton Park to consult with the Town on the PFOA related contamination issue.

Motion

Sheffer made the motion to retain Sam Gowan Phd,PG,CPG who is President & Senior Geologist at Alpha Geoscience in Clifton Park to consult with the Town on the PFOA related contamination issue. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

Old Business

- **On-Line General Town Code-** Jonathan had sent over some samples of others who have ecode on their websites for use by the community members. May will be the next update.
- **Naturae, LLC ongoing odor issue-** Fran and Mark went to the plant to see what is happening with the odor issue. They walked through the plant with a few of the workers and talked about the ventilation. This has been moved from the one side closest to the Laporte household to the other end. Mark and Fran suggest where it goes out that end a longer pipe will have to be installed for it to go higher into the air so that it will not disturb the neighbors with the smell. All of the board members agree that this issue needs to be addressed and done with. Supervisor Surdam will have Fran address the issue every day until it is resolved.
- **Noise/Track issue-**Attorney Schopf states that this will be addressed in the revision of the Land Use Law.
- **Spectrum Northeast, LLC Franchise Renewal Agreement-** New Public Hearing Date has been set for March 8th at 6:30pm.
- **Woods Brook Project update-** The committee met with the county on the project and they stated that some sections of the road will need to be torn up. Changes are being made with the homeowners and this should be taken care of soon.
- **Armory Phone System upgrade Project update-**We are still waiting on the setup of the new phones. This should be coming up in the next week or so.
- **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- We were waiting on the Union to reply to a letter from the Town. There has been no reply so we will move ahead with a Resolution in March.
- **Zoning Law Update-** There has been some in depth changes to the Land Use Law and Supervisor Surdam has not reviewed them all as of the meeting. A workshop to review all of the changes has been planned for March. As for now we will make the necessary changes to address the ATV/Motorcross issues and will do a resolution for the March meeting so that we can set up a Public Hearing for April. All of the changes will be sent to the Planning and Zoning boards for review and input.
- **Town of Hoosick Comprehensive Plan Update-** Kick Off Meeting was held Monday Feb 1st. Next Meeting is scheduled for April 6th at 7pm.
- **Town of Hoosick Code of Ethics Policy Review- Discussion- Motion to approve Resolution #50 of 2021 approving the new Town of Hoosick Code of Ethics Policy.**

Motion

Sheffer made the motion to approve Resolution #50 of 2021 approving the new Town of Hoosick Code of Ethics Policy. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **IT Discussion on new server options & email proposals from Edmunds.** Edmunds submitted a proposal for upgrading the server at a price of \$4,900. They also included a proposal to do icloud for a price of \$16,000 for the 1st year and \$9,500 maintenance every year after that. The email account setup was quoted at a price of \$3,120 which includes the setup of 15 emails and the maintenance on them.

Motion for Server

Hanselman made the motion to approve the server proposal of \$4,900 from Edmunds. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

Motion for Emails

Houghton made the motion to approve the email proposal of \$3,120 from Edmunds. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Code Enforcement Position-** Supervisor Surdam would like to place an ad for the Code Enforcement Officer in the paper.
- **Armory Lease-** Attorney Schopf is going to revise the lease to address the issue of the utilities. The lease states that the Town will pay to the Armory \$14,400 towards the cost of fuel oil. The Town currently pays the fuel oil bill and schedules deliveries when needed. We have been placed on automatic delivery and this should remain in place.

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](tel: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 Personnel issue and Planning Board Attorney.**

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to enter into executive session at 9:14pm. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Exited from Executive session**

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to exit executive session at 10:38pm. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

Decisions

Upon the exit of executive session the following decisions were made:
Motion was made to revoke the appointment of the Building Inspector, Fran Rogers effective immediately.

Motion

Houghton made the motion to revoke the appointment of the Building Inspector, Fran Rogers effective immediately. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

Motion was made to request the Planning Board to provide a resolution for their recommendation of the Planning Board Attorney.

Motion

Hanselman made the motion to request the Planning Board to provide a resolution for their recommendation for the Planning Board Attorney. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

Adjournment

Sheffer made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:42 pm pending the signing of vouchers, Surdam seconded, all ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #2 2021 Vouchers 45-105

General A	\$	21,867.66
General B	\$	20,476.38
Highway DA	\$	-----
Highway DB	\$	202,959.24
Fire Protection	\$	839,858.35
Library	\$	95,000.00
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>1,244.00</u>
Total:	\$	1,181,405.63

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross
Town Clerk