

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday January 11, 2021 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, Supervisor Mark Surdam, Eric Sheffer, 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- We will monitor comments through the Zoom Meeting and will respond periodically throughout the meeting. ·

- Welcome Lori Kempf representing the Youth Center. ·
- Welcome Marianne Zwicklbauer representing Hoosick Rising.

Correspondence/Announcements -

- Pickle Ball COVID Protocol- Discussion for the public to avoid using the side door Thursday mornings with the exception if the ramp is needed to access the building.

Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk's report for the month of December is as follows: \$676.00, remitted to the Supervisor was \$283.65.
- **Facilities Use Request-** None for the month

Assessor's Report

- Busy with senior exemptions. Seniors and anyone with a disability does not have to come in this year with their paperwork to file for their exemptions.
 - **Assessment Review Board-** There is one opening on the board that needs to be filled. This is a paid position. \$100 dollars for one time per year.
 - Governor Cuomo signed an Executive Order to Protect Senior Citizens. Motion to approve Resolution # 45 of 2021 Extending certain Real Property Tax exemptions to the 2021 Tax Roll.
-

- **Motion** to approve Resolution #45 of 2021 Extending certain Real Property Tax exemptions of the 2021 Tax Roll made Scheffer and seconded by McAuliffe. All Ayes carried.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Bovie Hill Road**-Tried to see if guiderail work could be combined with any work being done by Rensselaer County. Due to winter weather guiderail project will have to wait until warmer weather.
- **Bucket Loader Issue**-The bucket loader that is presently being used is a 2001 CAT and needs repair or to be replaced. To repair what is believed to be the problem will cost \$11,000. We are able to purchase a new 2019 bucket loader for the cost of \$175,517. We will receive a \$19,000 trade-in for the CAT. Motion to approve the purchase of the 2019 Bucket Loader for the cost of \$156.517
 - **Motion** to approve the purchase of the 2019 Bucket Loader for the of \$156.517 made by Surdam and seconded by Sheffer. All ayes carried.
- **Flail mower** – Tabled
- **Railroad Lane ownership issue**-Attorney Schopf reported that the road in question is in fact a town road and the property that was purchased by Mr. Clark was not owned by the railroad. Mr. Clark will have to seek legal action against the railroad. ·
- **5/10/20 Year Road Plan Project**-Town has to seriously take a look at the roads within Towns jurisdiction that needs repair. Superintendent Shiland needs to put a rough draft together prioritizing the roads that need repairs. A yearly cost will need to be figured out. Sheffer stated that we have to see what the starting point will be. Houghton asked if there are grants for this type of work. Cost will be a budgeting issue for the Town and will affect residents.

Town Historian

- Phil states that the virus has changed his time spent at the museum. He is writing articles and has gone through donated items. Looking forward to when he can come to meetings again and present historical things about our town.

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. ·
- Learn to Skate Program- Sign ups were very successful. ·
- Skate Lesson personnel- Motion to approve Toni Hanselman as a rink employee. ·
 - **Motion** to approve Toni Hanselman as rink employee made by Houghton and seconded by Sheffer. All ayes carried.

- Tom Margiotta- We have executed a Volunteer Code of Conduct/Worker's Compensation Service Agreement with Tom. We thank Tom for bringing his years of experience, time and energy in assisting us with the rink and the pool and for passing some of that knowledge onto Nick Houghton. ·
- Zamboni- Needs some TLC- Motion to authorize Resurfix to come from NJ to our rink to perform a full evaluation on our 1976 Zamboni JRD for a rehab quote. While they are here they will work on the carb to try to get it to run better. The cost for the visit will be \$500 any required parts will be extra.

Motion to approve authorization for Resurfix to come from NJ to perform a full evaluation on our Zamboni for a rehab quote for a cost of \$500 and extra cost for any parts required made by Sheffer and seconded by Houghton. All ayes carried

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- I was invited and did attend a virtual meeting held by the local Civilian Review Board which is working with HF Police Chief Ashe on updating the Village Police Dept. policing reform plan. ·
- I mailed a Thank you letter to the EC Foundation for their generous \$1,500 contribution for skates to be used at rink. ·
- I attended the most recent virtual CPWG Board meeting. Congratulations and Thank You to Loreen Hackett & Brian Bushner who have volunteered and were elected to be the first Co-Chairs for the Hoosick Area Participation Work Group. ·
- Prepared the resolutions and agenda for the TOH 2021 Organizational Meeting. ·
- Prepared the agenda for the January 2021 Town Board Meeting.
- I had a phone meeting this past week with Dave Vitti and Dave Shultz from Edmunds which is our IT Company to kick off the conversation in ref to the new server. We discussed replacing the physical server or maybe consider going to a Cloud Hosted Server. They are going to give us quotes for both.

Emails- Dave from Edmunds and I have discussed emails a number of times over the past few years. I am thinking we will need between 10-15 email accounts. They are going to quote Office 365 which they feel is a great program that will fit our needs perfectly. What we need to remember and discuss is this will move us away from free emails which we use now to something that we pay for but will offer a higher level of protection and professionalism.

Software- We also touched on Accounting & Recreation Software which we have previously discussed and reviewed. I did tell them that I still do not think we are ready for the Recreation software but if there prices ever come down on the Accounting Software to let us know and we could take a look at it. Our Bookkeeper recently informed me that she has been having an issue with the accounting software update we purchased last spring. She has been working with our vendor (not Edmunds) to get the problem corrected which they have not been able to do. Most recently they told her that we are not a priority. The issue

has not affected payroll as far as I know but it is an accounting issue that needs to be repaired.

New Phone System- I have asked Edmunds to coordinate with CIT and Nextiva to possibly have the new phone system installed by the end of next week. I did not realize until the other day that because of the VOIP System with the IP Firewall we have Edmunds needs to be involved. The last time we tried VOIP a number of years ago it did not work out so well, we are hoping for better results this time.

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer-Discussed a possible litter program to help pick up litter along town roads. Litter has not been as bad as it was due to less traffic because of covid. Will also approach businesses to see if they can help as well with this program.

Councilperson McAuliffe- A letter was sent to the railroad and Bruce Patire also sent a letter. A new four foot culver can be used but a six foot culver would be ideal.

Councilperson Hanselman-Nothing to report

Councilperson Houghton- Nothing to report

New Business

- 2020 Inner Budget Transfer as requested- Motion to approve as requested.
 - **Motion** to approve Inner Budget Transfer as requestion made by Sheffer and seconded by Hanselman. All ayes carried
- Budget Modification(s)
 - 2020 Budget modification for receiving \$20,000 from Honeywell to be used for PFOA related professional services. Motion to approve Resolution #46 of 2020.
 - **Motion** to approve Resolution #46 of 2020 made by Sheffer and second by McAuliffe. All ayes carried
 - 2020 Budget Modification to approve for receiving \$1,500 from the EC Foundation to be used towards the purchase of new ice skates and a new skate sharpener. Motion to approve Resolution #47 of 2020.
 - **Motion** to approve Resolution #47 of 2020 made by Houghton and seconded by Hanselman. All ayes carried

- 2021 Budget modification to correct a mistake for Court Clerk Salary- Motion to approve Resolution #48 of 2021.

Motion to approve Resolution #48 of 2021 made by Sheffer and seconded by McAuliffe. All ayes carried.

- 2021 Budget Modification for receiving \$10,000 from St. Gobain and \$10,000 from Honeywell to be used for PFOA related professional services. Motion to approve Resolution #49 of 2021.

Motion to approve Resolution #49 of 2021 made by McAuliffe and seconded by Hanselman. All ayes carried

- Local COVID-19- Updates and Discussion
- 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 has been extended 30days.
- 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 request to be able to use the approved funds for 2021 on building expenses such as fuel oil and maintenance and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2021 Agreement with the Youth Center Inc.
 - **Motion** to approve the request to be able to use the approved funds for 2021 on building expenses such as fuel oil and maintenance and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the 2021 Agreement with the Youth Center Inc. made by McAuliffe and seconded Houghton. All ayes carried
- Town Court Audit- January 19th at 6pm.- Supervisor Surdam unable to attend audit but other board members are able and plan to attend.
- CDBG-CV Grant Funding Opportunity-There are deadlines for information to be submitted. Supervisor Surdam will get that out. All of these grants will be a 50/50 project split.
- Town of Hoosick \$200,000 BAN Renewal- Motion to Authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign and execute all of the needed paperwork to execute the new \$200,000 BAN agreement.
 - **Motion** to Authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign and executive all of the needed paperwork to execute the new \$200,000 BAN Agreement made by McAuliffe and seconded by Sheffer. All ayes carried

- Local Law No. 6 of 2000 Establishing Revised Ethics Rules Applicable to the Town of Hoosick Officers and Employees. Attorney Schopf reported that three people minimum for an Ethics Committee that consists of two citizens, which may not be employees of the town, and one elected official.
- LaBerge Contract Addendum No. 2019055-01- for Professional Services related to General Planning & Zoning Services has been signed by Supervisor Surdam.
- Special Town Board Meeting- Supervisor Surdam has called a Special Town Board Zoom Meeting for Thursday January 14th at 6pm. We will immediately move to go into Executive Session to meet with our Attorneys in ref to ongoing PFOA contamination litigation. We have not met to discuss the issue in a while and we felt it was time to do so. The purpose of the meeting is to review our legal status in dealing with the issue. We do not expect any public decisions to come out of the meeting.
- IT New Computer Server & Email Project- Supervisor talked with Edmonds and a new physical server or a server using the cloud has been recommended.

Old Business

- On-Line General Town Code
- Naturae, LLC ongoing odor issue-Attorney Schopf has sent a letter with no response. McAuliffe said things have gone on long enough and the Town should look into closing them down. Attorney Schopf indicated that would be a costly avenue to take. McAuliffe and Hanselman indicated that there is activity going on there. If there is then that breaches the stop work order that is in place. It was suggested that the Building Inspector show up and do an inspection. Attorney to send another letter by FEDEX.
- Noise/Track issue-Working with Zoning Board on codes.
- Spectrum Northeast, LLC Franchise Renewal Agreement-Phone call was placed with Charter. Changes have been made to the franchise portion of the agreement. A Public Hearing on this will be held on February 8 at 6:30 pm, before the Town Board Meeting
- Woods Brook Project-There are three land owners who will be affected by the project. Concern is that things will be done that will affect their property. Land owners will have to sign off on anything that will affect their property.
- Armory Phone System upgrade-To upgrade CIT, Edmunds and Nextiva all must be involved.
- 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-Plan must be submitted to the union for review and they have 30-60 days to comment
- Town of Hoosick Comprehensive Plan-Supervisor Surdam working with Jim Hoag to possibly set up a Kick Off Meeting the night of the Zoning Board Meeting if they did not have regular to discuss
- Armory Lease- Motion to authorize Supervisor Surdam to execute the new lease agreement with Hoosick Rising-Name change to agreement should be made to read Hoosick Area Partnership for Parents and Youth, DBA, Hoosick Armory

- **Motion** to Authorize Supervisor Surdam to execute the new lease agreement with Hoosick Armory made by Sheffer and seconded by Houghton. All ayes carried
- Rink Lighting-Coordinating with Bradley Electric for work to be completed
- 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.

Executive Session- If needed.

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. Meeting minutes are available online @ www.townofhoosick.org or from the Town Clerk.
Adjournment pending the signing of Vouchers-

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by McAuliffe and seconded by Houghton. All ayes carried
Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm

Bills Paid Vouchers 538 – 539 2020 and Abstract #1 2021 Vouchers 1-44

General A	\$ 144,292.70
General B	\$ 5,149.26
Highway DA	\$ 91.80
Highway DB	\$ 27,432.11
Trust & Agency	\$ <u>2,090.56</u>
Total:	\$ 179,056.43

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Blinstrub
Deputy Town Clerk