

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday March 13, 2023 7:00 pm**

Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Jerry McAuliffe, William Hanselman Jackie Houghton, Eric Sheffer, 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 .

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.

- No public comments

Correspondence/Announcements

- The Historical Society & The Friends of Bennington are teaming up to host 3 major events this summer.
- The Hoosick History and Heritage Fair May 20th in the Armory. There will be a Trolley running from the Armory to the Battlefield all day.
- The Community Picnic and Family Fun Day July 15th at our Battlefield.
- Drama presentation called Voices of the Fallen August 5th & 6th.
- Sponsors and Exhibitors are welcome; please contact Joyce at friends.bennington.battlefield@gmail.com for more information or to register.
- Letter from County Executive Steve McLaughlin announcing the State of the County address to be held March 14th at the new County Office Building at 99 Troy Road, 6PM.
- Rensselaer County Summer Guide- Opportunity to list a summer event by contacting the Tourism Director Vito Ciccarelli Vciccarelli@rensko.com or Rensselaer County Executive Secretary Michelle Burton Mburton@rensko.com by May 1st 2023.
- Electronics Recycling Event sponsored by The Rensselaer County Legislature & The Environmental Management Council Saturday, March 25th, 2023 9:30am-1pm held in Troy at the Rensselaer County Office Building 1600 7th Ave.
- 2023 Rensselaer County Hazardous Waste Days. Four events are scheduled, 5/13 in Troy, 7/29 in Schodack, 9/16 in Brunswick, and 10/14 in Bethlehem. Please watch for additional information.

Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report**-The Clerk's report for the month of January is as follows: \$1,038 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$804.49.
- **Facilities Use Request- North Hoosick Fire Department, July 3, 2023_**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the North Hoosick Fire Department to use the athletic fields for Firework show and band pending proof of insurance for the fire department and for the fire work vendor. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Assessor's Report

- **Report**- Tony states that March 1st was the deadline for the exemptions to be in. Tiffany is entering in the data that was collected. Tony stated that he and Tiffany were going to go data collecting but have put it off for this week due to the weather prediction. RPS is having issues this week and hopefully this gets fixed soon.
- **Tentative Roll**-May 1st is the deadline for the changes to be entered for the tentative roll.
- **NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services Letter in ref to 2023 Tentative Telecommunications Ceilings- Roll Section 6.** Tony states that positive numbers for the tentative telecommunications ceiling is good. These numbers have not increased in a while, and they are now coming into line in where they should be.
- **Office changes**-Tiffany asked the board to consider changing the office a little bit due to the fact that she is not able to see who is coming into the office. She would also like to change the door so that there is a counter that is there similar to the village, so she is able to meet residents at the counter.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Report**-the mild weather has given the highway the ability to continue to do maintenance on roads. They have been working on Tate Road chipping away all of the dead trees that may fall out onto the road and brush hogging so that you are able to see around corners. They also have been filling potholes where they are able to.
- **Equipment Projection Cost Estimates**-Paul provided the board with the equipment inventory sheet with the year of each piece and discussed with the board the maintenance that has been involved with each piece along with the condition of that piece of equipment. Paul stated that the loader was just received two years ago, the excavator is a 2008 and will be \$300,000 plus to replace this, the grader is the oldest with about 6000 hours on it. He suggested buying a small excavator with tracks so that he is able to multiple things with it. The roadside mower will need to be replaced. There are multiple things wrong with this. As far as trucks, Jeff Delurey with Allegiance Trucks is saying it takes about 12-24 months for a completed truck to be delivered because the shop is only allowed so many per delivery. If we were to get on the list for a new truck, it would not be delivered to the town before the 24-25 season. Supervisor Surdam felt that this would be the most important one to do right now because of the lead time for the finished truck. The board agreed to at least do a commitment letter to be added to the list.

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to approve the commitment letter for a truck with Allegiance Trucks and be added to the list. Hanselman seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Supervisor Surdam stated that we need to do a forecast for the equipment so that we can see what we will need for equipment monies for the future.

- **Wilson Hill Paving-** the board had a discussion regarding the bonding of Wilson Hill. There is 1.68 miles of road left to finish and as Paul stated in last month's meeting concerning the amount of money that he has there is not going to be enough left to do this piece of road. OGS pricing will come out in April and Paul will be able to get a firm number of how much it will cost to do this strip of road under the state contract. The board will wait to decide once the numbers has been confirmed.

Town Historian

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

Code Enforcement

- **Report-** Jared emailed Supervisor Surdam his report and Supervisor Surdam will forward this to everyone.

Recreation

- **Report-**No report from Ayla as there was nothing to report. The rink closed for the season.

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- Eric, Rae, and I worked with Britney Marbot from Paychex to convert the Town payroll system.
- The Town Board and I met with Court Clerk Kimball, Judge Restino, and Judge McClellan to complete the 2022 Town Court Audit. I submitted the required report to the NYS Court System.
- The Board and I held and attended the Comprehensive Plan Workshop.
- I attended the Rensselaer County Official opening of the new Emergency Services Training Facility in Wynantskill.
- I attended the Ribbon Cutting for the new flagship office for United States Congresswoman Elise Stefanik held in the new Rensselaer County Office Building located at 99 Troy Rd. in East Greenbush. After the ribbon cutting, I was able to take a tour of the new office building.
- I virtually attended the recent Community Participation Work Group (CPWG) meeting.
- Meeting agendas, resolutions, and meeting prep.

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer- Eric states that the comprehensive plan has still not been received and was hoping that he would have received it by now. He will follow up with Nicole to see how much longer this will take. Community Garden is moving forward. Eric also feels that we need to have someone to come in and do Money Management. Supervisor Surdam stated that he would contact Pioneer to see what can happen. Attorney Schopf states that the highest return he has seen on money is from the Ballston Spa National Bank. Eric stated that he has discussed this with a contact of his in Brunswick and will try and get ahold of him to do a workshop with the board members. Eric states that he has also looked into why the SAM grant has been lagging. He states that it is all political based. He has contacted a few people and is hopeful that he will have some answers by the April meeting. Supervisor Surdam states that the \$925,000 that the grant was for was based on money two years ago or longer and that will not be nearly enough to cover what was in the grant and for the board to keep this in mind.

Councilperson McAuliffe- Nothing for the month.

Councilperson Hanselman- Bill states that he has found a commercial installer for the turf and will schedule to have the turf installed mid-May to the end of May. The installer lives close by, and the cost would be \$600-800. Paul, Jerry and Bill all met at the rink to see if they could figure out a way to fix the drainage issue. Bill discussed an envelope drain. Supervisor Surdam would like to speak with Jamie Jerome to see what can be done to make the draining efficient.

Councilperson Houghton- Nothing for the month.

New Business

- **2022 Inner Budget Transfers-** No transfers this month.
- **2nd Year in a row that Ashley St. Onge has applied for and received \$500 from the Stewart's Holiday Match on behalf of the Summer Camp Program, Thank you Ashley!!**
- **2023 Budget Modification to accept \$500 from Stewart's Holiday Match to be used for the Town of Hoosick Summer Camp for Youth- Motion**
MOTION
Sheffer made the motion to approve **Resolution #44** to accept the donation of \$500 from the Stewart's Holiday Match Program to use for various items needed for Summer Camp. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.
- **2023 Budget Modification for the Revaluation Project- Motion**
MOTION
Houghton made the motion to approve **Resolution #45** to modify the budget to pay GAR for the additional time approved at the January meeting in the amount of \$12,000. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.
- **Town Court Civil Judgement Project-** The board discussed the email that was received by Jan Kimball, Court Clerk regarding a project to collect overdue fines.
- **Letter from NYS Assemblyman Scott Bendett-**This was a letter received introducing himself to everyone.

- **NYS Climate Smart Communities Program-** Communication was received regarding this. It will have to be reviewed a little bit more.
- **NYS Deferred Compensation Plan 457b Benefit-** This has been offered before and there seems to be no one that is interested in obtaining the additional benefit. It is available if anyone is interested.

Old Business

- **Zoning Law re-writes update- Workshop will be planned for May with the planning and zoning boards to review the updates.**
- **\$925,000 Recreation SAM Grant-** This was discussed under Eric’s information. We are still waiting to hear a response.
- **Town of Hoosick Road Asset Management Plan Scope of Work Draft-** No update as of today’s date.
- **Employee Comp & Benefits Manual-** The changes we approved last month have been added to the manual. Attorney Schopf has distributed to all.
- **Cannabis- Motion to set Public Hearing on a Local Law Providing for the Establishment of a Moratorium on Applications for Cannabis Retail Dispensaries on April 10th, 2023 at 6:40pm.**

MOTION

- Houghton made the motion to approve **Resolution #46** for the public hearing on **Local Law #1** Providing for the Establishment of a Moratorium on Applications for Cannabis Retail Dispensaries on April 10th, 2023, at 6:40pm. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.
- **Domestic Partnerships- Motion to set Public Hearing for a Local Law Providing for the Establishment of the Registration of Domestic Partnerships on April 10th, 2023, at 6:45pm.**

MOTION

- Sheffer made the motion to approve **Resolution #47** for the public hearing on **Local Law #2** Providing for the Establishment of the Registration of Domestic Partnerships on April 10th, 2023, at 6:45pm. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.
- **Community Garden- Motion to set Public Hearing for a Local Law Providing for the Establishment of a Community Garden on April 10th, 2023 at 6:50pm.**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve **Resolution #48** for the public hearing on **Local Law #3** Providing for the Establishment of a Community Garden on April 10th, 2023, at 6:50pm. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

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- Houghton made the motion to enter into executive session at 8:10pm. McAuliffe seconded the motion.**

McAuliffe motioned to exit executive session at 8:37pm. Hanselman seconded the motion.

Adjournment

Sheffer made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:38pm pending the signing of vouchers, Surdam seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #3 2023 Vouchers 118-161

General A	\$	50,371.18
General B	\$	5,793.41
Highway DA	\$	145.53
Highway DB	\$	55,382.94
Capital Fund H	\$	-----
Fire Protection	\$	-----
Library	\$	-----
Trust & Agency	\$	5,521.50
Total:	\$	117,214.56

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross
Town Clerk