

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday June 10, 2024 7:00 pm**

Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

- **Marianne Zwicklbauer-** Hoosick Rising is prepping for the Hoosick Falls 200th and the 250th Battle of Bennington. Meetings are open to the public and if anyone is interested in participating see Hoosick Rising. Hoosick Rising will be posting information on the Hoosick Rising Facebook page. There are going to be a lot of games and events going on for the anniversary celebrations.

Correspondence/Announcements

- **3rd Annual Community Day Event** sponsored by the North Hoosick and Hoosick Falls Fire Departments on Saturday, June 29th.
- **Historical Society Upcoming Events**
 - June 23rd Hoosick Falls Native Brennan McGuire visits from Nashville from 3 to 5pm.
 - July 21 100th Birthday for Meryle Pokines.
 - July 27 Steel Pier- Dixieland Jazz
- **Bennington Battlefield June Programs:**
 - **First day of summer Guided Hike** Thursday, June 20th 4pm.
 - **Public Tour of the Battlefield** Friday, June 28th 4pm.

Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk's report for the month of May is as follows: \$48,317.00 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$45,727.83.
 - **Facility Use-None for the month.** Hoosick Falls Central School did want to use the athletic field by the rink and asked that the bathrooms be open for use while they were there.
 - **DEC License Change Announcement-** There has been a change in the licensing procedure for the new hunting season. The town will be responsible for printing on plain paper and using their own ink. This will not be reimbursed or supplied by DEC. DEC states there can be a cost added
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to the license if the agent has to print a copy for the licensee. This has yet to be determined. Awaiting further discussion on this. An amended licensing agreement has to be submitted by July 1st or the agent's ability to sell licenses will be suspended until the agreement has been received.

- **AED Quote from CardiacLife-** A quote was received from CardiacLife for a new AED for the camp/rink. This includes a set of pediatric pads, adult pads, cpr/aed pack with mask and an alarmed AED cabinet. The price on the quote is \$2,079.36.

MOTION

McAuliffe made a motion to approve the purchase of the AED from CardiacLife in the amount of \$2,079.36. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Report-** Paul reports that the highway department has been shimming roads. Over 400 tons of blacktop have been used to shim and pave. Wilson Hill and Bayer have been shimmed. Shingle Hollow and Windy Hill have been blacktopped. Wayne Bonesteel is working on the permit for Farmer's Inn Road. Had to use Gorman's for chip sealing because Peckham's scheduling was too far out. Gorman's provided the same pricing for the same job as Peckham's. Pool cover is off, pool is filled, and ready to go. Highway Superintendent Hoag attended classes for a couple of days. The castle playground is in need of repair. There are a few of the pillars that are rotted at the base of them which makes the castle unsteady. Paul feels that this should come down. Pictures were sent to all board members.
- **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. No further news on this as of the meeting.
- **Culvert Project- Farmers Inn Rd. Update-** Pipe has been spec'd out and has been ordered through Lane Pipe.
- **VT AOT Emergency Contact & 511 Information Form-** This pertains to the 3 railroad bridges on the Vermont Rail Systems line that are scheduled for rehab work that has just begun and will continue through October 2024.

Assessor's Report

- **Report-**Tiffany reports that the final roll will be submitted and finalized on July 1st. School taxes will be based off the new finalized roll. The Village taxes that come out in June of 2024 will be based off the 2023 roll as the new roll is not final until July 1st. After purchasing a home, you will need to apply for the Basic Star online. Enhanced is for 65 or older and needs to have income verification each year. If the state does not receive your income, you potentially could have the exemption removed by the state.
- **Christopher Wood** letter of Resignation from the Assessment Review Board (ARB). **Motion** to accept the letter of resignation from Christopher Wood.

MOTION

Sheffer made a motion to accept the letter of resignation of Christopher Wood from the Assessment Review Board. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Kendal Baker is interested in serving on the Assessment Review Board. Motion** to appoint Kendal Baker to complete the term left vacant by Chris Wood which expires Sept 30, 2024. This is tabled to July so that Supervisor Surdam can contact Kendal Baker to make sure that he would like to serve on the Assessment Review Board.

MOTION

Houghton made a motion to table the appointment. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **GAR/Town of Hoosick Property Revaluation Project**-Project is complete, and our equalization rate is back at 100%.
- **May 20th, Letter from Geoffrey Cloak from NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance** advising that he has reviewed our Application for Qualifications Review and determined that Tiffany McMahon meets the minimum qualification standards to be appointed sole assessor.
- **May 29th, Letter of Congratulations** to Tiffany McMahon from Kristin Dence, Deputy Commissioner of Processing and Taxpayer Services at NYS Department of Taxation and Finance for completing the requirements of the basic course of training for the designation of State Certified Assessor.
- **Based on the information we have received about Tiffany's successful completion of the Assessor Training we ask for a Motion** to change the status of Tiffany McMahon from Acting Assessor to Sole Assessor for the Town of Hoosick. Tiffany has completed her requirements ahead of schedule.

MOTION

Sheffer made a motion to approve the status of Tiffany McMahon from Acting Assessor to Sole Assessor for the Town of Hoosick. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **June 4th letter from NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance confirming our Final State Equalization Rate is at 100%.**
- **Nexamp Letter- Notice of Intent** to construct an approximate 5MWac project at 469 Wilson Hill Rd. commencing the sixty-day notice period under the Real Property Tax Law.
- **Route 22 & Johnson Hill Solar Pilot discussions have begun with Rensselaer County.** Tiffany states that she has not received any letter in her office regarding pilot discussions with Rensselaer County. She states that the Town Law states that she needs to receive this in her office. The Solar Pilot Law will be reviewed.

Town Historian

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

Code Enforcement

- **Report-** Jared supplied his report to the board via email and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Recreation

- **Ashley- Update on summer camp-**Ashley states that she now has an Aquatics Director, Abigail Woods. She will be there for Swimming lessons and lifeguarding. All weeks for camp are full except two spots for week 4. Ashley is still in need of a medical director since she is not able to get ahold of Bill Gailard. Ashley states that she still needs to have an AED at camp as part of their emergency plan. This has been ordered and was approved at a prior meeting to purchase.

MOTION

Houghton made a motion to approve Abigail Woods as the Aquatics Director. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

MOTION

McAuliffe made a motion to approve the quote for CardiacLife for the AED for Summer Camp. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Ayla- Update for Pool-**The pool hours have been set. July 8, 9, and 10 the pool will be closed for WSI course training.
- **Pool Employee Appointments, Motion to appoint Ava Salvesvold and Thomas Kane as Lifeguards.**
- **Mark Surdam-** Volunteer Certified Pool Operator
- **Tom Marciotta-** Certified Pool Operator
- **Leo McGuire-** Assistant Pool Operator @ \$18 per hr.

MOTION

Sheffer made a motion to approve all pool employees, lifeguards, certified pool operators, and Leo McGuire as assistant pool operator @ \$18 per hour. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Paying for Lifeguard and WSI Training-** The board agreed to pay for the Lifeguard and WSI Training with no reimbursement to the employees as previously done in the past.

MOTION

Houghton made a motion to approve paying for lifeguard training and WSI training. Hanselman seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Pool Hours review-**The pool hours will be set 1-5 and Ayla can extend these hours if she has staff to cover and the weather is hot.
- **Diving Board-** Showing signs of age, we may need to replace. Will look at this at the end of the season.

<u>Position</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>	<u>Proposed 2024 wage schedule</u>
Managers	\$20.70	\$22.00 First Aid, CPR, AED required
Assist. Managers	\$16.20	\$19.00 First Aid, CPR, AED required
Lifeguard	\$14.70	\$16.00 First Aid, CPR, AED required
Lifeguard with WSI	\$15.20	\$18.00 First Aid, CPR, AED required
Camp Counselors	\$14.50	\$16.00 First Aid, CPR, AED required
Support	\$14.20	\$15.00
Pool Operators	\$18.00	\$18.00

MOTION

Hanselman made a motion to approve the 2024 proposed recreation wage schedule. Houghton seconded the motion. Supervisor Surdam also stated that the Aquatics Director will receive the same hourly pay as the managers. All ayes carried.

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- Meeting prep and agenda.

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer- Eric states that the solar committee will need to set up a workshop for all boards to meet and go over the final corrections to the Solar Law before a public hearing can be scheduled. The date for the workshop has been set for July 17th at 6pm in the Armory. Eric is working with Matt Cronin for quotes on Cyber Insurance. The island out need Route 7/22 intersection has been weeded with the help of St. Gobain employees.

Councilperson McAuliffe- Jerry states that the military banners are almost done being hung up around the village. Thank you to the Village Highway for assisting with the hanging of the banners.

Councilperson Hanselman- Bill states that he is still waiting on the county to let him know regarding the ARPA funding for the roof repairs at the Rink. Bill also wanted to know if he could move

forward with the brochures to promote the use of the rink and turf. He also wanted to know if a discount could be given to those who would like to use this for the whole day. The board agreed to rent the facility for \$400 for 8 hours of use. There will be a deposit required of \$500. If the facility is left clean, the deposit will be refunded.

AM&J Digital will be doing the brochures. The cost for 100 brochures is \$80.

MOTION

McAuliffe made a motion to approve the purchase of the brochures. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Councilperson Houghton- Jackie states that the lining and sealing of the courts should be ready to go soon. Don is still waiting for a PO from Field Turf along with a start date. Nick is ready to go when Don has a date and time.

New Business

- **2024 Inter Budget Transfers – Motion to approve as requested.**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the 2024 inter budget transfers as noted below. Hanselman seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Assessor CE	1,000.00	
Independent Auditing		1,000.00
Permanent Improvement	1,600.00	
Permanent Improvement-Farmers Inn Rd		1,600.00

- **2024 Budget Amendment-** For unexpected increased Attorney Fees pertaining to Zoning Board Solar Projects. Motion to Approve **Resolution #48** to amend the Town of Hoosick 2024 Budget.

MOTION

Sheffer made a motion to approve **Resolution #48** to amend the Town of Hoosick 2024 Budget. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **Zoning Board-** A Special Meeting was held on Wednesday May 22nd to address changes to the Zoning Board. We are accepting applications for one additional Zoning Board Member.
- **Zoning Board Meeting Change- the Zoning Board Meetings are moving from the 1st Monday of the Month to the 2nd Tuesday of the month beginning in July 2024.**
- **Castle Playground-** This was discussed with Highway Superintendent Hoag regarding the condition of the playground. There are 40 posts holding the castle. Supervisor Surdam states that the castle should not fall with that many posts. He will look at it and does not want to take the castle down without a plan.
- **Zoning Map Solar Overlay through Upstate GIS-** Deputy Supervisor Sheffer states that there is a \$400 option for the map overlay. Mary Jackson Dres will reach out to the company to get the maps produced.

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the purchase of the zoning map solar overlay through GIS. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

- **May 2024 Ag & Markets Report ref Dog Control-**The report was received, and the shelter is in satisfactory condition.
- **NYS Deferred Compensation Plan-** Supervisor Surdam will send in to get more information regarding this plan for the employees.

- **Armory Meeting Room for the NY Forward Local Planning Committee meetings use-** Meetings have been scheduled and room has been reserved for the use of the committee.
- **Penflex Service Awards for North Hoosick Fire Dept.-** We have received the 2023 Annual Report- Supervisor Surdam states that an invoice has been received regarding the service awards for the North Hoosick Fire Department. This invoice will be approved.
- **NYS ENCON-** Bears are becoming more of a local issue, please no bird feeders, and try to keep garbage secure.
- **Change to Village Water Supply Project along Rte. 22. -** The construction schedule has been postponed until after the school year and there will be alternating traffic during construction.

Old Business

- **Zoning Law re-writes update-** Cannot move forward with the zoning law updates until the Comprehensive plan is complete.
- **Shared Communication Position with Hoosick Falls Central School and the Village-** No Update at this time.
- **Comprehensive Plan-** The housing portion of the comprehensive plan needs to be completed. Mr. Dailey has completed and updated the school portion of the comprehensive plan. All have received a copy of this update via email.
- **Shovel Ready Projects-** the discussion among the board was to use the playground as one of the shovel ready projects. As discussed in the Highway report by Highway Superintendent Hoag, the playground really needs attention.
- **Pool/Playground Camera System Upgrade Project-**Supervisor Surdam will work on getting the camera system installed. This had been approved at a prior meeting by the board.
- **Rensselaer County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Plan-** Mark, Paul and Jerad are working with the County on this updated plan. The next meeting will be held on July 1st.
- **Commercial Windmills Moratorium –** The solar committee will review. There was discussion about using model law from other towns and to review the NYSERTA regulations when putting together the law for the town.
- **New NYS Grant Program Swim NY-** Supervisor Surdam has reached out to Matt Cathone of CHA Engineering and asked him to update the Pool Plans we originally developed for the SAM Grant we were awarded. We heard back about the plans. The plans need very little updating as they have already been approved by the Rensselaer County Health Department. CHA does not submit grant applications. Supervisor Surdam would like to send to LaBerge to do the grant and submit.
- **Murphy Building-** There is private interest in the building. The new Senior Center is scheduled to open on July 1st.

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 9:08 PM

MOTION

Houghton made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and to seek legal counsel in ref to pending litigation. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

EXITED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:44 PM

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to exit the executive session. Hanselman 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, 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 Second Tuesday of the month starting in July 2024; **Planning Board** meets the third Monday of the month. These meetings are held at 7pm in the Court Room at the Armory. Meeting minutes are available online @ www.townofhoosick.org or from the Town Clerk.

Adjournment

Houghton made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:45 p.m. pending the signing of vouchers, Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #6 2024 Vouchers 272-319

General A	\$	73,610.73
General B	\$	12,110.04
Highway DA	\$	673.58
Highway DB	\$	65,835.79
Capital Fund H	\$	10,553.43
Fire Protection	\$	18,900.00
Library	\$	-----
Trust & Agency	\$	620.18
Total:	\$	182,303.75

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross
Town Clerk