

**Town of Hoosick  
Regular Board Meeting  
Monday October 13, 2021 7:00 pm**

***Our Town Board meeting is open to the public. The meeting can be seen live via the internet at Zoom.com [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org).***

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Previous Meeting(s) Minutes-** have been reviewed by the board and are available from the Town Clerk or [www.townofhoosick.org](http://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.**

**Correspondence/Announcements**

- Bennington Battlefield Halloween-themed Programs Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> to include; 3:30 PM Focused Tour: Battlefield Burials, 5PM Jack-O'-lantern carving workshop, 6PM Outdoor Movie Screening. For additional information the flyer can be seen at the Town website [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org) or call 518-860-9094.

**Town Clerk's Report**

- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk's report for the month of September is as follows: \$ 20,410.67 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$2, 169.48. This amount included a \$7.15 credit from DEC for overage charge in August for Doe Permits
- **Facilities Use Request-** Received two requests:
  - Deb Mabey from Hoosick Falls High School Grades 9-12 requested use of the skating rink on Saturday, Oct 30, 2021 from 7 – 10 pm for a Homecoming Dance.

**MOTION**

- Hanselman made the motion to approve Facilities Use Request from Deb Mabey for Hoosick Falls High School Grades 9-12 Homecoming Dance at the skating rink on Saturday, Oct 30, 2021 from 7 – 10 pm. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.
- HACA Food Pantry requesting use of the skating rink from November 1, 2021 – December 18, 2021 for Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Box prep and distribution. Distribution will be drive through and held on 11/20 & 12/18.

### **MOTION**

McAuliffe made the motion to approve Facilities Use Request from HACA Food Pantry for use of the skating rink from November 1, 2021 – December 18, 2021 for Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Box prep and distribution. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

### **Assessor's Report**

#### **Superintendent of Highway's Report**

- **Cottrell Road Bridge**- Update Bridge NY Application
- **Markers Road water damage**- Bill & Mark met with owner Jim Marker at the site. Had to access Mr. Marker's property in order to move the road down. Owner would like it to go down further. This will have to wait until Spring due to the wet ground. In doing work a hold in the edge of the road that continued to get bigger was found. It turned out to be an old stone well. It was filled in with rock so water drains over the bank. Clay tiles were also discovered that ran to the well. New culvert pipe will go in next week
- **Wilson Hill Road**-will start project on October 14, 2021
- **Fox Hollow Road**-Paving has been completed.
- **CHIPS** funding has been received.
- **Union**-Superintendent wanted to give his thoughts on talks with the Union. He explained that the Highway Department needs truck drivers. Drivers who presently work for the highway department are paid \$2 - \$6 below what a Class B CDL driver should be paid. He talked to other municipalities to compare their situation to the Town of Hoosick and said that they are in the same position as we are.

### **Town Historian**

- Phil updated on the Museum's work to repair damage that was caused by flooding

### **Recreation**

#### **Supervisor Surdam's Report**

- I met via Zoom with John Tries from NYS Comp Alliance to review our Works Comp plan summary report
- Marched in the Halfway Hooley Parade
- Attended an in-person Teamster's meeting
- I have been working on Tentative 2022 Town Budget with Rae Philpott
- Bill Shiland and I met with Jim Marker on Marker's Road to discuss solutions for the issue with the road and a solution which does involve the potential to carve into some of their hillside
- I attended to Woods Brook pre-construction meeting and a couple of on-site meetings as the project began

- We held a 2022 Budget Workshop to review and discuss the proposed 2022 Town Budget
- I attended via Zoom a Capital District Transportation Planning Committee meeting
- Meeting prep and agenda

### Town Council Reports

- **Deputy Supervisor Sheffer-** Reached out to the Town of Brunswick about ARPA. They said they have enough loss through departments and loss revenues. The amount they have to work with is much larger than the Town of Hoosick because the Town of Brunswick is larger than we are but money's can be put towards anything that is revenue based or lost.
- **Councilperson McAuliffe-**On October 4 he received a request about what the Town can do in regards to the work that is being done on the train track. Work is being performed late at night and one day a train was stopped there for eight hours.
- **Councilperson Hanselman-** Bill had nothing for this month
- **Councilperson Houghton-**Requests that discussions be started on the lighting situation at the basketball/tennis courts so it can be utilized more in the evenings

### New Business

- **2020 Inner Budget Transfer- No transfers needed this month.**
  - **2022 Budget-**
    - The proposed Preliminary 2022 Budget has a 3.29% increase over the 2021 Budget. Copies are available at the Town Clerks Office or on our website at [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org) .
    - West Hoosick Fire Dept. Public Hearing on their budget is scheduled for Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 6pm at the West Hoosick F.D.
    - Public Hearing on the Preliminary 2022 Town of Hoosick Budget is scheduled for Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm here in the Armory.
- MOTION**  
Houghton made the motion to accept Temporary Budget. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried
- **Town of Hoosick Housing Authority-**
    - We have received a letter of resignation from Anne Keegan who has been a long-time member of the Housing Authority Board. Thank you, Anne, for your time and dedication to the Housing Authority.
    - Joyce Brewer's Term expired on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- MOTION**  
McAuliffe made the motion to appoint Joyce Brewer to the Town of Hoosick Housing Authority Board for a 5-year term which will go through September 30<sup>th</sup> 2026. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried

- We are looking for a new member that would fill Anne's remaining term which ends September 30 2022.
- **2021/2022 Weir-Reynolds Ice Rink Manager**  
**MOTION**  
 Sheffer mad the motion to appoint Ayla Senecal as the 2021/2022 Ice Rink Manager. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried
- **53 Cummings St. Issue**-Building Inspector needs to serve owner. A Hearing needs to be held which will be held on November 8, 2021 at 6:45 pm, before the Town's Monthly Board Meeting  
**MOTION**  
 Sheffer made the motion to start proceeding to get 53 Cummings St cleaned up. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried
- **Leo McGuire Health Insurance Request**-The Town of Hoosick agreed when Leo retired to continue to pay his health insurance and Leo pays for his wife to be carried on his health insurance. Leo will no longer need to have the Town's health insurance because he is now going to have Medicare Part B and is asking the Town to pay the cost of his Medicare Part B coverage in lieu of the coverage he had with the Town. In doing this it will save the Town \$500 in savings.  
**MOTION**  
 McAuliffe made the motion for the Town of Hoosick to pay for Mr. McGuire's Medicare Part B in lieu of his coverage with the Town's Health Insurance. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried
- **Inter municipal Agreement with the Village of Hoosick Falls for the provision of Legal Services in connection with enforcement of state and local dog control laws**-The Town's Attorney specializes in dog control laws. The Village and the Town use the same Dog Control Officer. The Village would like to hire the Town's attorney to handle any legal action that needs to be taken when there are any violations that need to be brought to court. Attorney will breakdown charges that apply to the Town and Village separately when billing for services  
**MOTION**  
 Sheffer mad the motion for the Inter municipal Agreement with the Village of Hoosick Falls for the provision of Legal Services in connection with enforcement of state and local dog control laws. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried
- **\$950,000 SAM Grant- May still be available**-The Town of Hoosick was awarded this Grant for projects that had been planned to be done but the projects got shelved when Covid hit so it was assumed that the Grant was no longer available. Town received notice that the Grant is in fact available and asked if we still want it. Supervisor Surdam informed them that yes, we still want the Grant. Money will be used for recreational projects such as spray pad, equipment at the pool. Some of these projects have already been done but could be used for the lighting at the courts and other small projects.
- **AIM Payment Received**- Our annual AIM (Aid and Incentives to Municipalities) in the amount of \$51,304 has been received.

- **Armory Camera Security System has been installed-**HAYC3 installed security cameras at different locations throughout the Armory. They were initially going to have a company install them but the cost was extremely high and instead purchased the cameras and installed them themselves. HAYC3 is asking the Town to pay \$1,000 for the security system and its installation. Councilperson Sheffer said he did not have a problem paying the \$1,000 as the Town has talked about the amount of people that come through the Armory especially during tax time. Councilperson Houghton questioned if this cost could come out of the rent that we pay HAYC3 for office space in the Armory. Supervisor Surdam said that it could. Houghton said we pay enough in rent I think cost should come from there rather than paying an additional \$1,000. Councilperson Hanselman and McAuliffe both agreed with Houghton. No vote needed as three Board Members of the Board were already not in favor of the Town paying HAYC3 for the Security System.

#### **Old Business**

- **On-Line General Town Code-**Waiting to hear what the step will be
- **Zoning Law Update-** Project is proceeding, no additional updates at this time.
- **Town of Hoosick Comprehensive Plan- Discussion for dates to have a public review and comments.**

*We all need to review the excel version of the Stakeholders List and update this list with any contact information we do not have. Also, please add any contacts we have missed or delete any which may not be relevant to this effort. Also please recall we will need the Town's assistance particularly with Agricultural Stakeholders, Local Developers and Real Estate Stakeholders, and Community Business Stakeholders.*

- **Naturae, LLC ongoing odor issue-** Supervisor Surdam did make another site visit due to odor complaint. Code Officer Moses is following up. They indicated that would have someone at October's Board meeting to discuss with the Board how to resolve issue but no one from Naturae LLC attended Board meeting. Councilperson McAuliffe said that the Town has been dealing with this for some time now with non-compliance from Naturae. Supervisor Surdam stated that on his visit to the site when you got to the back of the building you could definitely smell the odor. While the initial complaint seemed to get a little better it has gotten worse and it is believed that is caused by the storing of the product being moved from inside to outside. Even though this is a secondary complaint it really is the same complaint as it was from the very beginning. McAuliffe stated that he feels enough time has been given and we are not getting any cooperation from Naturae that we need to issue another cease-and-desist order. Code Enforcement Officer to send letter and if no response or compliance by November's Town Board Meeting a stop work order would be issued.

#### **MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion that if Naturae is non-compliant to the Towns request by it's November Board Meeting proceeding would start for a Stop Work Order. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried

- **Woods Brook Project- Update-** The project has begun at site 5 near the golf course above to old dam off from Richmond Ave. The Village has approved for the widening of the shoulder. The brook has been lined with stone and cleaned out. This site should be complete by 11/30. The other section of the project on Johnson Hill Rd, site 1 will begin immediately after weather permitting. The portion of the project calls for new culver pipe but it is on back order.
- **EV Charging Station-** Nothing new to report.
- **Cannabis Stores & Bars- Opt Out Discussion-**It is not easy to make a decision whether to opt out on any portion of this because the State has not set any guidelines to go by because it has just formed it committee. It is thought that the State will have something in place by the end of 2022. To meet the deadline of December 31, 2021 the Town to do a Moratorium on the stores & bars giving the Town time to see what guidelines the State will issue. A Moratorium will also help in having this become part of zoning.
- **State of New York Public Service Commission ref Spectrum & Town of Hoosick Agreement-** On June 23, 2021, Spectrum Northeast, LLC I/k/a Charter Communications submitted an application for the approval of the renewal of its cable television franchise with the Town of Hoosick, Rensselaer County. The Town authorized renewal of the franchise by Resolution, certified on March 8, 2021, after a duly noticed public hearing held on the same date. The Term of the renewal is 10 years, beginning on the date that this order is issued and effective (September 17, 2021).
- **ARPA Funding-**
  - We have received the first half of the funding. The funds must be used for COVID related projects, certain infrastructure projects, certain loans to support the local economy.
  - Hollie has compiled the information to determine how much of the funding can be transferred to our General Budget to Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss.
  - Premium Pay for Essential Workers- **We began this Discussion at the 2022 Budget Workshop.**
  - **Other** funding request and how best to handle them.
- **New “required” Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Update-** Supervisor Surdam has reached out to Nicholas Mark of BPAS Actuarial and Pension Services, LLC, who completed the last update which was referred to as the GASB 75 update to find out the cost of the new GASB 84 update. The last update was completed 2 years ago at a cost of \$7500. **We have addressed this expense in the 2022 Budget and are still waiting to speak with someone at BPAS.**

*For specific questions about the public water supply: Email: [bpwsp@health.ny.gov](mailto:bpwsp@health.ny.gov), phone: 518-402-7650*

*For specific questions about private wells: Email: [bee@health.ny.gov](mailto:bee@health.ny.gov), phone: 518-402-7860*

*For specific questions about blood testing: Email: [beoe@health.ny.gov](mailto: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. Meeting minutes are available online @ [www.townofhoosick.org](http://www.townofhoosick.org) or from the Town Clerk.

- **Executive Session-** None required this month

**Adjournment**

Sheffer made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:17 pm pending the signing of vouchers, McAuliffe seconded, all ayes carried.

**Bills Paid Abstract #10 2021 Vouchers 447-491**

General A	\$	15,547.77
General B	\$	3,884.80
Highway DA	\$	9,297.21
Highway DB	\$	129,546.01
Capital Fund H	\$	868.41
Fire Protection	\$	
Library	\$	
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>1,479.57</u>
Total:	\$	159,755.36

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Blinstrub  
Deputy Town Clerk