

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday September 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.

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 .

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.**
- Jennifer Scarpulla and Michael Scarpulla along with Tristin and Dr. Hausler wanted to address the board regarding the new legislation on cannabis. Scarp Farm has obtained a hemp license to process the plants for CBD. They do plan on building a 7,000 square foot building that is enclosed to cultivate plants for the processing of cannabis. This building will have odor control as well. Jennifer states that the company contributes a lot already to the community and would love to see this happen here for the town. The board states that there is really not enough guidance at this point to make a clear decision to opt in or out. They would like to wait until there is more information and know the deadline is at the end of the year.
- Joe Saffino 3864 Route 7, would like to say that he feels the town should opt in. To grow and dispense cannabis this would create jobs for people in this area that need a job. He thinks that it would be a good thing for the community and a better tax break for the residents.

Correspondence/Announcements

- **St. Patrick's Halfway Hooley parade and festival** next Saturday September 18th beginning at 1pm.
 - **The Men o' War Balladeers** A traditional music band based in Cambridge NY performing Celtic and North American Folk Ballads next Saturday September 18th at 2pm on the lawn of the Louis Miller Museum 166 Main St Hoosick Falls. Bring your own chairs and refreshments.
 - **Hoosick Falls PFOA Settlement- United States District Court For The Northern District Of New York.** If you drank water supplied by the Village of Hoosick Falls Municipal Water System or from a private well in the Village of Hoosick Falls or the Town of Hoosick, or owned or rented property in the Village of Hoosick Falls or the Town of Hoosick, you could get benefits from a class action settlement. We have set up a link to obtain all information at
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www.townofhoosick.org or you can call Toll-Free 1-855-786-0992 or visit www.hoosickfallspfoasettlement.com .

- **Email from John Swartwout NYS DEC ref privately owned land near Areson Rd that was used as a small arms range by the National Guard between 1933 and 1955.**
- Rensselaer County Legislature Letter dated August 12th in ref to beginning its 8 year review of Agricultural District #1 which includes Hoosick.

Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk's report for the month of August is as follows: \$ 10,917.50 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$3,719.93
- **Facilities Use Request-** Received two requests that the dates have already passed and board had tentatively approved them.

Assessor's Report

- Building permits are up. Sales have been busy and building to construct from the county has been coming in. No other business.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Cottrell Road Bridge-** There will be nothing on this until the fall.
- **Markers Road water damage-** The road will need to be moved over. Where the bank has given way, no more material has been added and it has not dropped anymore. The best solution to this would be to acquire the land to make a permanent fix for the road and to leave the bank alone. The landowners have been approached and they do have a couple of requests if the agreement should be done. Attorney Schopf will put together an agreement between the town and the Markers. There has been a recent survey done to the land
- **Paving-** will be doing paving Thursday and will be doing the Village street paving on Friday. Fox Hollow paving has been pushed off until Labor Day and Fair Banks Road has been added. Wilson Hill was chip sealed 2 weeks ago.
- **Big Steel Pipes- Pipes** are at the garage waiting to do repairs to Brownell Road.

Town Historian

- Phil states that Saturday after the parade there will be a band, Man O' War on the lawn at the museum at 2pm. October 2nd there will be a presentation from 3-4 regarding the New England Mill Worker. There has been a bit of a set back at the museum. The building was built in 1880. In the office the wall is all plaster and with all of the rain that we have had it started to rain inside the office which had ruined the floor and ceiling. This also rained on some of the clothing inside the office as well. Phil has been working on a project regarding the St. Croix Bridge. There has a house in that area since the Revolutionary War time and the house still remains. Phil also mentioned the Calhoun's building that is nearby.

Recreation

- **Summer Camp-** Ashley reported that all seven weeks of camp had been filled. She is also happy to report that there were no covid cases or quarantines for any of the campers. Jerry

McAuliffe donated a slip and slide to the camp for the kids to use. Five out of the 8 counselors were new and all worked out.

- **Pool Report**-Megan Perry presented the report to the board. She is a lifeguard and WSI at the pool. The pool manger, Allison Perry, had a prior commitment and was not able to attend the meeting.
- The third session of swim lessons ended on August 13th. The pool ended up giving two make up lessons to the afternoon Pre-K class as they missed a couple of days due to the afternoon thunderstorms.
- Since the last meeting, a lifeguard course was held which recertified 4 of the staff so that their lifeguard and CPR certifications will be up to date for the return next summer.
- The last day of the pool being opened was August 27th. There were no incidents or issues with closing.
- The August attendance numbers are as follows:
Morning swim was an average of 15 swimmers each day
Open Swim saw an average of around 69 people each day
Swim lessons for the third session had a daily attendance of about 50 kids
The average daily total admissions for the month of August was 100 people per day

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- Thank you to Deputy Supervisor Sheffer for covering for me while I was away on vacation.
- With the assistance of Denise McMahon and Assessor Rice I gathered the needed paperwork for the EV Charging Station Project. I emailed the project site deed along with the executed agreement to Livingston Energy on Aug 18th.
- I virtually attended the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) Policy Board meeting.
- I attended the two PFOA Class Action Settlement informational meeting held at the Weir-Reynolds Community Rink. Thank you to Jerry McAuliffe for bringing the chairs over from the Catholic Church. Mayor Allen has produced a video that is available at the Village website that covers much of the information which was covered at these meetings.
- I participated in two 9/11 Ceremonies, the first organized by the North Hoosick Fire Dept. began in the Village Park and concluded at the Weir-Reynolds Community Rink. The second was a candlelight walk organized by the Town of Hoosick Rescue Squad which began at the Hoosick Falls Fire Dept. proceeded down Main St and ended at the Rescue Squad Building on 1st St. Thank you to all of the committee people who put the time and effort into both dedications of remembrance of the 9/11 attacks on the USA.
- Meeting Agenda and prep.
- I attended an Open House at the West Hoosick Fire Dept. to honor James Hunt for his 65 years of service to the West Hoosick Fire District. The West Hoosick Fire Dept. was incorporated in 1957, Jim was a charter member. Jim has served the Dept. in various roles including Fire Chief, Director, and Fire Police Captain. Jim has also served Rensselaer County as a long time

member and director of the Fire Advisory Board and a member of the Fire Chief's Association. Thank you Jim for your years of community service!!

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer- Eric stated that the island is in need of attention again. He stated that Dave Sutton and a group of his workers had taken care of the weeds and would like to thank all of them for doing this. Eric has not found a solution as of yet on how to kill the weeds and do this safely but continues to work on a solution for this.

Councilperson McAuliffe- Nothing for this month.

Councilperson Hanselman- Bill stated that House of Tile cannot lay the turf. So he is back in search of someone that can lay it down. The turf will need to be laid and cut to the rink size.

Councilperson Houghton- Nothing for this month.

New Business

- **2020 Inner Budget Transfer- Motion** to approve inner 2021 budget transfers as requested via email.

MOTION

Houghton made the motion to approve the Inner Budget transfer as requested via email. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Safety Issue Route 67 near Strawberry Acres- Motion** for Supervisor Surdam to request a traffic study to lower the speed limit in the area.

MOTION

Hanselman made the motion to approve Supervisor Surdam to request a traffic study to lower the speed limit in the area of Strawberry Acres on Route 67. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Census 2020 Vs 2010-** From County Legislator Bruce Patire the population count in the Village decreased 285 and the Town decreased 213.
- **Hazardous Waste pick up request-** this issue was discussed by the board. They will keep working on this.
- **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. This has to do with retirement.
- **National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** letter of support for two proclamations;

1. Proclaim the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week. **Motion**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the proclamation to Proclaim the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried

2. Proclaim November 2021 as National American Indian Heritage Month. **Motion MOTION**

Houghton made the motion to approve the proclamation to Proclaim November 2021 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Hanselman seconded. All ayes carried.

- **2022 Budget Workshop-** The 2022 initial Town Budget workshop is scheduled for October 4th at 6pm here in the Armory. The Tentative Budget will be submitted by Supervisor Surdam to Town Clerk Cross by September 30th.
- **Rescheduled October Town Board Meeting-** Due to Columbus Day Holiday the October meeting will be held Wednesday October 13th at 7pm.

Old Business

- **On-Line General Town Code-** Attorney Schopf has submitted the packet for the online portal. Attorney Schopf will need the Local Law for the Noise Control of 2018 emailed to him.
- **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. The Stakeholder information will need to be gathered before the next meeting. *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-** Building Inspector Moses & Supervisor Surdam did meet with reps at the plant last week. They had taken care of the odor and the Burlap bags are now stacked at the end of the building.
- **Woods Brook Project-** Project bids have been received, the Village Board will be discussing at their meeting tomorrow night. The deadline is December 31st. Trying to get the okay for Johnson Hill.
- **EV Charging Station-** The Village is working on getting the deed to the parking lot straightened out. As soon as the deed to the property is in order, the charging stations can be installed.
- **Cannabis Stores & Bars-** Licenses are applied through the State. Attorney Schopf will put together laws for the Town Board to review. The decision needs to be made to opt in or out by the end of the year.
- **ARPA Funding- Update-** Initial funding of \$172,679 has been received. Discussion on appropriate use of the funds. There is still no clear guidance on how the money can be used. This is what the town is waiting for before funds are distributed.
- **Stateline Riders Mass Gathering Application-** Event follow up. There were no complaints about the riders in Breese Hollow on the Cipperly Property.

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, 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 or from the Town Clerk.

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

Adjournment

McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:31 pm pending the signing of vouchers, Sheffer seconded, all ayes carried.

Bills Paid Abstract #9 2021 Vouchers 391-446

General A	\$	29,012.10
General B	\$	7,906.95
Highway DA	\$	733.69
Highway DB	\$	45,867.50
Capital Fund H	\$	868.41
Fire Protection	\$	
Library	\$	
Trust & Agency	\$	2,694.25
Total:	\$	87,082.90

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross
Town Clerk