

**Town of Hoosick
Regular Board Meeting
Monday January 10, 2022 7:00 pm**

Our Town Board meeting is now open to the public but with limited seating capacity due to required social distancing requirements. The meeting can be seen live via the internet at Zoom.com Meeting ID 886 8650 9279 Passcode is 922205 the meeting begins at 7pm.

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.

- Jim Bonesteel- Jim did a presentation showing what the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance is working on. The Rensselaer Plateau Alliance (RPA) is working on a new Community Forest in the Towns of Hoosick and Pittstown. Most of the land is in the Town of Hoosick. We plan to submit a proposal to the U.S. Forest Service Community Forest Program to help pay for the acquisition. I would like to add to the grant proposal that says that the Town of Hoosick Board is supportive of this project.

Correspondence/Announcements -

- No Correspondence at the time of the meeting.

Town Clerk's Report

- **Monthly Report-**The Clerk's report for the month of December is as follows: \$4,356.50, remitted to the Supervisor was \$3,316.89.
- **Facilities Use Request-** None for the month
- **New Copy Machine-**Paperwork needed to be completed for the vendor. Supervisor Surdam signed the appropriate paperwork at the meeting.

Assessor's Report

- Tony reported that the Governor had made a last minute decision for the exemptions for the seniors to not have to come in with their information once again this year. There will need to be a resolution to do this.
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- **Extending certain Real Property Tax exemptions to the 2022 Tax Roll-** Motion to approve **Resolution # 45** of 2022 to extend certain Real Property Tax exemptions to the 2022 Tax Roll.
MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to approve **Resolution #45** of 2022 extending certain Real Property Tax exemptions of the 2022 Tax Roll. Sheffer Seconded. All Ayes carried.

- **GAR Proposal-** to work with the Town to implement a plan to maintain the initial investment of the reassessment project completed in 2018 and keeps the data inventory and valuation current post reassessment implementation.

MOTION

Houghton made the motion to work with GAR to keep the equalization rate at 100% and to make the change to the values of properties to maintain this rate. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

Superintendent of Highway's Report

- **Welcome to our New Highway Superintendent Paul Hoag.**
- **Superintendent Report-** Paul reports that they have been out the last couple of days salting and sanding from the storms. 2022 bids for fuel and diesel will be going into the paper to be read in the February meeting. COVID test kits were delivered to the town garage and distributed to the highway department. Salt was delivered and there will be another deliver at the end of the week.
- **Cottrell Road Bridge- Communication Update Bridge NY Application-** On December 16th Governor Hochul announced more than \$216 Million in "Bridge NY" Funding with only one project being awarded in the entire Capital District area. Needless to say we will not receive funding this year for the Cottrell Road Bridge but we will continue trying. This bridge has been yellow tagged and is down to one lane for traffic.
- **Pollution Policy-** The pollution policy that covers the tanks at the garage is coming up for renewal March 1st 2022. The quote to cover the two tanks is \$536 through Marshall & Sterling, Inc. **Motion-**to approve the CHUBB Environmental pollution policy through Marshall & Sterling Insurance and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the required agreement.

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the pollution policy that covers the tanks at the garage in the coming up renewal for March 1st 2022. The quote to cover the two tanks is \$536 through Marshall & Sterling, Inc. and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign the required agreement. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

Town Historian

- Phil distributed pictures for February and will make copies to have at Trustco and Thorpe's for the residents to see. He also spoke about three people from the Hoosick Falls area that became famous. They were I. Burke Surdam, T. Morgan Burke, and Judge DeForest Carr Pitt.

Code Department

- **53 Cumming Street-** the bank has taken on the responsibility of the house and it is being foreclosed on. The property will be up for sale soon.

Recreation

- **Weir/Reynolds Skating Rink-** Opened on January 8, 2022. The weather did not allow us to open before then.
- **Learn to Skate-** We had approx. 50 sign up for lessons on Sat 1/8.
- **Appointments- Motion** to approve Toni Hanselman as a Rink Employee specifically to assist with Skate Lessons.

MOTION

Houghton made the motion to approve the appointment of Toni Hanselman as a rink employee to assist with skate lessons. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried except Bill Hanselman who abstained from the vote.

Supervisor Surdam's Report

- **I virtually attended the CDTC Community Planner Forum**
- **Went to Sam's Club for supplies with Hwy Superintendent Hoag.**
- **Agenda & meeting prep for the organizational & monthly Town Board meeting.**

Town Council Reports

Deputy Supervisor Sheffer-Nothing for the month

Councilperson McAuliffe- the trains have been coming through at a normal pace now and it seems that the work that was done on the tracks has helped.

Councilperson Hanselman-Nothing for the month

Councilperson Houghton- There is a quote for the lighting for the basketball courts from JA Bradley's. This will be good for only 10 days. It was suggested to get another quote from Hathaway's electric as well.

New Business

- **2021 Inner Budget Transfer- Motion to approve inter-budget transfers as per 1/10/2022 request.**

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the proposed budget transfers on January 10, 2022 request. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

- **West Hoosick Fire Dept.** approving the issuance of a tax exempt note for the purchase of a new Firetruck. **Motion to approve Resolution #46** of 2022 approving the issuance of a tax exempt note for the West Hoosick Fire Department for the purchase of a new firetruck.

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to approve **Resolution #46** of 2022 approving the issuance of a tax exempt note for the West Hoosick Fire Department for the purchase of a new firetruck. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **\$100,000 Bond Anticipation Renewal Note- Motion to Authorize** Supervisor Surdam to sign and execute all of the needed paperwork to execute the new \$100,000 BAN agreement with Pioneer Savings Bank at a rate of 0.80%.

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to **Authorize** Supervisor Surdam to sign and execute all of the needed paperwork to execute the new \$100,000 BAN agreement with Pioneer Savings Bank at a rate of 0.80%. Houghton seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Vermont Agency of Transportation Temporary Rights Request-** Agreement developed by VTrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) Section for the Hoosick VTRY(46) Bridge 600 over the Walloomsac River. This is for use of the access/staging areas that was discussed with Supervisor Surdam at a recent on-site meeting. **Motion to approve** the Grant of Temporary Rights as presented by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign said agreement.

MOTION

Sheffer made the motion to approve the Grant of Temporary Rights as presented by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and to authorize Supervisor Surdam to sign said agreement. McAuliffe seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Town Playground Graffiti-** Report of new graffiti on the walls of the Castle Playground and an offer by local resident Sarah Rukaj to paint over the graffiti that is there and to try to keep on top of it going forward.

MOTION

McAuliffe made the motion to approve local resident Sarah Rukaj to paint over the graffiti that is there and to try to keep on top of it going forward. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Rensselaer Plateau Alliance Proposed Lanford's Woods Community Forest- Motion to support the project.**

MOTION

Houghton made the motion to support the project. Sheffer seconded. All ayes carried.

- **Armory Utilities-**Supervisor Surdam stated that we will now pay the armory per the agreement in the amount of \$14,000 for oil instead of paying the oil bills directly. We will not pay anymore Doug Oil bills going forward for deliveries.
- **Town Court Audit- We need to schedule for 1/18 or 1/19, Discussion.** The board will meet with the court on January 18th at 6PM to do the court audit.

Old Business

- **On-Line General Town Code-** Books should be shipped to us any day. There should be enough books for every department. They will be here before the February meeting on the zoning law.
- **Zoning Law Update-** Will be meeting in February for further discussion on zoning law.
- **Town of Hoosick Comprehensive Plan- Discussion for dates to have a public review and comments.** Eric will take a look at the list and create a list for all to have.

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-** stop work order has been reissued and tickets will be issued for a later court appearance.
- **EV Charging Station-** Recent Issue with the stations has been resolved and they are now in working order.
- **ARPA Funding-** Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, January 26th at 6pm in the Armory Meeting Room.
- **2022-2023 CDTC Unified Planning Work Program Transportation Planning Project Proposal** has been submitted requesting funding assistance in creating an Asset Management Capital Plan for Town of Hoosick Roads as part of the New Visions 2050 Federal Program.

Executive Session- None needed.

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.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting pending the signing of the vouchers was made by Houghton and seconded by McAulifee. All ayes carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Bills Paid Vouchers 573–2021 and Abstract #1 2022 Vouchers 1-38

General A	\$ 123,076.74
General B	\$ 23,836.91
Highway DA	\$ -----
Highway DB	\$ 34,030.08
Capital H Fund	\$ 442.97
Trust & Agency	\$ <u>1,183.18</u>
Total:	\$ 182,569.88

Respectfully submitted,
Holli Cross
Town Clerk