

**Town of Hoosick  
Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday November 6, 2024 7:00 pm**

**Called to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Others Present:** Ryan Pezzulo, Town Attorney and Paul Hoag, Superintendent of Highways.

**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.

- Silvia Plasse on Wagner Road asked that the board consider an open burn law to protect residents from nuisance burning. Supervisor Surdam stated that they would look into this and consider a law but states that there really is not much they can do about campfires. Silvia states that this is more than campfires.

**Correspondence/Announcements**

- On November 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a Veterans memorial at the Bennington Battlefield at 2pm.
- On November 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a Veterans memorial at the American Legion at 11am.

**Town Clerk's Report**

- **Monthly Report:** The Clerk's report for the month of October is as follows: \$9,903.00 and remitted to the Supervisor was \$2,623.39.

**Superintendent of Highway's Report**

- **Report-** Superintendent of Highway Hoag states that the weather has been good and that the highway has been doing paving projects on Cottrell Road and Telford Road. They hauled 1,000 tons of gravel to have at the highway garage for use during the winter months for repair work on roads. Superintendent of Highway Hoag states that the gravel is not available during the winter months. Superintendent of Highway Hoag states that the highway has also assisted the Village with hauling.
- **Cottrell Road Bridge Update-**
  - **Recent NYS Inspection has resulted in the Cottrell Road Bridge being Red Tagged.** The tonnage to cross the bridge has been reduced to 10 tons. Barrels are still in place and the bridge must be inspected every six months. Pictures are sent to the state for review.

- We have received the letter from NYSDOT that the Town of Hoosick application for the replacement of the Cottrell Road Bridge over the Walloomsac River has been approved for funding through the 2023 Bridge NY Program in the amount of \$2,484,250.
- Next Steps, the Town needs to execute a State-Local Agreement (SLA) with NYSDOT. We are waiting to receive the agreement.
- We need a Design Agreement with Foit-Albert. Note- Resolutions will be needed for both.
- **Hawthorn Solar Storm water Management, Maintenance and Road Remediation Agreement-** Superintendent of Highway Hoag states that he has reviewed this in the past and made changes. He will review again to make sure all changes have been made and make sure there are no additional changes. Attorney Pezzulo states that the engineer should review the plan as well.
- **Signage for Basketball/Pickleball Courts-** Superintendent of Highway Hoag states that the signs are ready and will be installed at the courts.
- **Streetlights-** Still trying to get the streetlights that are out fixed. It is hard to get addresses of lights that are out during the daytime hours so the only way to do this is at night and this can be dangerous to do.

#### Assessor's Report

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

#### Town Historian

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

#### Code Enforcement

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

#### Recreation

- **Skating Rink Discussion- Should we open for the season?** The board discussed opening the skating rink for the season and feels that the past two years with the warmer weather, this has not been good to maintain the ice in the rink. The town has had to issue refunds for skating lessons, and this results in added work for the bookkeeper. They will see how the winter will be and maybe have bare minimum staff with a possibility of skating if the weather is cold for a stretch of 7-10 days.

#### Supervisor Surdam's Report

- We all attended the West Hoosick Fire Dept. Public Hearing for their 2025 budget.
- I was part of a phone meeting with Samantha and Dean from Hoosac School in preparation for the NY Forward Meeting.
- I virtually attended the monthly CPWG meeting.
- I attended the NY Forward Strategic Investment Plan meeting held in the Armory.
- Town Board meeting prep and agenda.

#### Town Council Reports

**Deputy Supervisor Sheffer-** Eric states that the Cyber Insurance paperwork has been submitted to the insurance company. He would like to thank Dave Sutton and his crew for cleaning up the Island.

The TV and stand are here for the Zoning and Planning Boards. Eric states a new stand will need to be purchased because the one is not sturdy enough to hold the TV.

**Councilperson McAuliffe-** Jerry states that streetlights are an issue and feels that these really need to be addressed.

**Councilperson Hanselman-** Bill was absent.

**Councilperson Houghton-** Jackie states that maybe we could investigate getting LED lighting instead of the general streetlights. The LED seems to last longer.

**New Business**

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

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
A1670.4	Central Print	400.00	
A5010.4	Supt of Highways	100.00	
1660.4	Central Storeroom		500.00
B9030.8	Social Security	600.00	
B9040.8	Worker Comp		600.00

**MOTION**

Houghton made the motion to approve the 2024 inter budget transfers as stated above. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

- **2024 Budget Modification- Unexpected property clean up of 35 Scott Street. Resolution #51.**

**MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion to approve **Resolution #51** for the 2024 budget modification for the unexpected property cleanup of 35 Scott Street. Houghton seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

- **FEMA Region 2 Letter dated November 1, 2024 referencing providing feedback within 30 days for proposed Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)-** Supervisor Surdam states he will be attending the next meeting.

- **2025 Town of Hoosick Budget- Public Hearing held before this meeting for Resolution #52 Adopting the Final Budget for 2025**

**MOTION**

McAuliffe made a motion to approve **Resolution #52** Adopting the final 2025 Town of Hoosick Budget. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

- **Zoning Board Appointment(s)-**The board has been working on getting more people for the board.

- **ZOOM Issue-**Supervisor Surdam had an issue with Zoom on the laptop. He is working on the issue and hopes to have it resolved by the next meeting.

- **Original Public Hearing for the 2025 Budget was changed from the original October 24<sup>th</sup> date we discussed last month-** The date was changed due to not being published in the paper.
- **Request to consider a more restrictive burning ban in the Town-** Supervisor Surdam states that the board will consider a restrictive burn ban for the town and will work on gathering information for this.

**Old Business**

- **Zoning Law re-write update-** Nothing new to report.
- **New updated Solar Law- Schedule Public Hearing held before this meeting-** There were a few spelling errors and a few minor changes. These will be corrected and a copy will be sent to Town Clerk Cross for submitting to the County for referral.
- **Comprehensive Plan-** No Update at this time.
- **Rensselaer County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Plan-** Mark, Paul and Jerad are working with the County on this updated plan. All the required paperwork to date has been submitted. No update currently.
- **Open Meeting Law Policy & Procedures for the Town of Hoosick-** Policy and procedures for the Town of Hoosick open meeting are being worked on with all boards to ensure the public has all of the necessary information prior to each meeting.
- **HFCS/Town Communications Update-** Sarah Livingstone has settled into her position at the school and has been working on the school's website. They are using the Aptegy Platform and have secured a separate module that will be the Town's website with a separate URL connection. Our first expense will be to pay for the module which will be under \$1500. Sarah will begin to develop our website as a ghost site for a few months until we are ready to go live. Our website will continue to operate as it is.
- **Residency Requirements for Public Officers-** Attorney Pezzulo will draft a law with the requirements for the board's review.

**Executive Session-** Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

**ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08PM**

**MOTION**

Sheffer made the motion to enter the Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

**EXITED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:26PM**

**MOTION**

McAuliffe made the motion to exit the executive session. Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

**DECISION**

Sheffer made a motion to appoint K. Robichard to the Zoning Board. McAuliffe seconded the motion. All ayes carried except Hanselman who was absent.

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: [beei@health.ny.gov](mailto:beei@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, is available, Monday-Friday 9am-8pm and Saturday 9am-3pm.

**Scheduled Meetings-**

**Scheduled Meetings- Zoning Board** meets on the Second Tuesday of the month; **Planning Board** meets on 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](http://www.townofhoosick.org) or from the Town Clerk.

**Adjournment**

McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:27 p.m. pending the signing of vouchers, Sheffer seconded the motion. All ayes carried.

**Bills Paid Abstract #11 2024 Vouchers 508-551**

General A	\$	57,431.08
General B	\$	10,633.75
Highway DA	\$	10,224.17
Highway DB	\$	130,265.00
Capital Fund H	\$	6,556.01
Fire Protection	\$	2,750.00
Library	\$	-----
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>3,526.92</u>
Total:	\$	221,386.93

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Cross  
Town Clerk