

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2010

The monthly meeting of the Town of Hounsfield Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Timothy Scee at the Town Hall, 18774 Co. Rt. 66 at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present were: Supervisor Scee and Councilmen Stephen Lee, David Cobb, Todd Farrington and Vincent Battista.

Supervisor Scee opened the floor for public comment and Mayor Eric Constance thanked the Town Highway Dept. for their help during a water break repair on Saturday night. Victoria Pritty Pitcher from Co. Rt. 145 was present to congratulate Supervisor Scee and the two new Councilmen and added that with the new members on the Board there might be more ideas of a way to get water to her home that is the only residence between the end of the Dist. 3 water line and the town line on that road without water.

Supervisor Scee thanked Yvonne Podvin, Ken Lawrence Jr. and Martin DelSignore for their service to the Town of Hounsfield.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on 12/30/09. In discussion C'man Battista asked if, in the future, the answers to questions raised could also be in the minutes as a public record. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

In correspondence, Supervisor Scee received a letter from the Village of Brownville thanking the Town for assistance. This was in reference to a water main break they had recently.

The Supervisor also received an email from Bernard Study which was sent to the Town Clerk. The purpose of the email was to convey his displeasure that an icy hill at Muskalonge Bay Lane was sanded by the Town Highway Dept on January 4th. Supervisor Scee responded that, although this road is a private road, in the interest of public safety he talked to three councilmen and they agreed to sand one time only. C'man Cobb could not be reached. C'man Cobb added that this issue has come up many times before and on June 16, 2007 a motion was approved by the Town Board to end any work done on private roads by the Town at the end of that year and a letter was sent out to all shoreline residents to notify them. C'man Cobb reminded the Board that there is a State Law prohibiting work being done on private roads. C'man Battista added that it is up to the residents of private roads to hire someone to maintain the road for them. Supervisor Scee agreed that a reoccurring situation does not constitute an emergency.

The Supervisor's report was given: Receipts were \$244,380.51, Disbursements were \$216,172.77, Bank Balances were \$80,104.45, and Investments were \$201,902.56. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to approve the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to renew membership to The Association of Towns. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract # 1, vouchers # 1-37, was presented and reviewed by the Board.

General Fund A	\$ 16,195.30
General Fund B	916.21
Lakeside Cemetery Fund	31.00
Highway Fund A	25,992.58
Highway Fund B	10,964.35

Water District 2	1,571.72
Water District 1	193.69
Water District 4	108.18
Water District 3	<u>4,875.11</u>
Abstract Total	\$ 60,848.14

Supervisor Scee reviewed the individual bills this month and he would like C'man Farrington to review them next month the day before the meeting.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Battista to approve Abstract # 1. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee reported that he attended the County Legislator Public Hearing on the Wind Farm and spoke in favor of it. He also attended the Planning Board meeting and the site plan for the Wind Farm was approved with no opposition. He also reported that a Water Committee meeting will be held on January 20th. The water interconnect on Rt. 3 at the town line has been completed and with remaining grant funds for District 4, there are some items that have been approved for purchase by Rural Development and need approval by the Board.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to purchase items (boring machine, leak detection machine, lap top and software and a few smaller items for Water Dept. use) with the remainder of grant funds from Water District 4. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb that the Supervisor's records have been received from the Clerk to the Supervisor and balance for the year 2009 and signed by all Board members. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to give water credits to three customers in District 3, Mark Thompson and Al Barnhardt for \$75 each because they are not hooked up and \$2425 to David Pennock because there was a problem with his meter. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee noted that he had a tour of the new addition at the Highway Building today and the men have done a good job on it.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended the Association of Towns training in Albany with Supervisor Scee and he found it very informative.

Supervisor Scee asked the Highway Superintendent to give a report. He read his report for the month of December and then he asked for Board approval to hire two part time laborers to fill in during the plowing season at a rate of \$10 hr. At the present time there are two regular employees out due to accidents.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee to authorize the Highway Superintendent to hire two part time laborers to fill in for plowing at a rate of \$10 hr. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee asked the Town Clerk for a report and she reported that Justice Loomis and Justice Derouin have their books for 2009 here for the Board's review and signatures. She also has the Town Clerk's Cash book here for the Board's review and signatures after the meeting.

Supervisor Scee reported that copies of all reports are available tonight.

The Supervisor also mentioned that in the Fire Chief's report he noted that Dale Petrie has submitted his letter of resignation to the Fire Department after serving for 25 years.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee to send a letter of recognition for 25 years of service to the community in the Sackets Harbor Fire Department and appreciation from the Town of Hounsfield Town Board. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Rachel Barnet was present from Bernier, Carr to report on Water District 3 and the tower project in the village.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'man Battista that the sign at the entrance to the tower will have the names of the previous Town Board because it was approved during that time. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Farrington that two plaques be installed at the new water tower with names of the previous Town Board. These plaques have been donated by the contractor of the project. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held about an upcoming contract between Ridgeviewtel and the Town for placement of equipment on the new Town water tower.

Don DiMonda gave an update on the proposed Galloo Island Wind Farm Project. He suggested that Hounsfield residents contact County Legislators in support of the project and there is a petition that anyone from Jefferson County can sign in support of the project here at the Town Hall and several places in the Village.

Supervisor Scee added that Fred Hall, Superintendent of the Sackets Harbor School, told him that the rumor that is circulating is untrue and that, if passed, a PILOT agreement will not affect State Aid that our school receives.

Supervisor Scee announced that the annual meeting of the New York State Association of Towns will be held February 14-17 in New York City.

A Town/Village Board meeting was tentatively set for January 22, 2010 at 1PM at the Village Municipal Building.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to approve purchasing a new computer for the Town Clerk's office for \$688. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held about the furnace situation at the highway building. The Highway Superintendent told the Board that the present boiler cannot be used and this was discovered about the first part of December when he tried to start it up. C'man Lee explained that when Jean Derouin was Supervisor, engineered plans were drawn up for the addition to the highway building with a new break room, bathrooms, showers, boiler room, records room and to renovate the old break room and boiler room into office space. This month specs were put out for a new boiler system and an ad was placed to open bids on that tonight. C'man Battista asked if an engineer drew up the specs and the answer was no, the specs were a design to build format.

After more discussion the two sealed bids were opened. Hyde Stone, Watertown, NY base bid was \$37,517

and the 2nd bid was Lawman Heating & Cooling, Sackets Harbor, NY base bid was \$30,957. C'man Lee explained that these bids include a two boiler system, hooking up the infloor heat and a water heater. C'man Cobb suggested that the old boiler be repaired with insurance funds and some of allocated funds for the addition and using the balance of those allocated funds to balance the Highway Department overage from last year. He said the addition should be reviewed this year at budget time. C'man Lee added that the professionals that looked at the present boiler said it was not worth repairing. C'man Battista suggested that the Board takes more time to advertise again for more bids. Supervisor Scee maintained that the Town has a nice facility and there needs to be adequate heat here for the employees.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'man Lee to accept the low bid of \$30,957 for a new boiler system. In discussion C'man Farrington remarked that he is not in favor of repairing the old system but he would like to see more bids. C'man Lee stated that he would like more bids also but there is the risk that the bids will not come in this low again. In a roll call vote, C'man Battista voted no, C'man Farrington voted no, C'man Lee voted yes, C'man Cobb voted no and Supervisor Scee voted yes. The motion was not carried.

C'man Farrington will work with the Highway Superintendent and Jeff Kenney to get specs ready to put out to bid again for the February 13th meeting.

Supervisor Scee gave assignments to board members for 2010 and asked C'man Battista to work with the Bed Tax Committee, libraries, and consolidated services. He asked C'man Cobb to continue working with the fire department/EMS, Planning Board and ZBA. He asked C'man Farrington to work with the Highway Department, cemeteries and recreation. C'man Lee was asked to work on water/sewer and wind.

At this time Supervisor Scee asked the Board to consider annual resolutions for 2010 and a motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution #10-01, establishing date and time for Town of Hounsfield Board meetings. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista for resolution #10-02, adopting policies and designations for 2010. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington for resolution #10-03, authorizing signatory and payment duties for 2010. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee for resolution # 10-04, approving appointments for 2010 and C'man Battista asked why there was no name listed for Constable. Supervisor Scee answered that in the interest of saving money for the Town, the position could stay with no appointment made because he feels that there are several levels of police protection in the Town with State Police, County Sheriff and Village of Sackets Harbor Police. C'man Battista felt that the constable position should definitely be filled and he felt that each appointment should be voted on separately. There was no 2nd to this motion.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and a 2nd by C'man Lee for revised resolution #10-04, approving appointments for 2010 with additions of Richard Coseo for constable, Ed McWayne for ZBA alternate member, Brooke McDowell for ZBA member, and Deborah Johnston for Planning Board member. C'man Battista voted no, C'man Farrington voted no, and C'man Cobb voted no. C'man Lee and Supervisor Scee voted yes. The motion was not carried.

Supervisor Scee chose Stephen Lee for his Deputy Supervisor and Maryann Yuhas as his clerk for 2010.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Maryann Yuhas billing clerk for Water Dist. 1,2,3 & 4. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Maryann Yuhas record keeper for Lakeside Cemetery. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Clarice Snell-Harris Deputy Town Clerk. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee to appoint Patricia Fee and Sally LaPlante Justice Clerks. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this point C'man Battista asked if anyone else has shown any interest in any of these positions and the answer was no.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2^{nds} by C'man Lee to appoint Robert and Jeannie Brennan as Town Historians. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Diane Nier as Registrar of Vital Statistics. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Lee to appoint Diane Nier as Payment Clerk for Water Districts 1,2,3 & 4. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Diane Nier as Lakeside Cemetery Clerk. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Clarice Snell-Harris s Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Dr. Charles Moehs as Health Officer. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Diane Nier as ZBA and Planning Board Secretary. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Lee to appoint Bruce Alcombrack as Superintendent of Lakeside Cemetery. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by Supervisor Scee to appoint Marlene Lennox as Zoning Officer. C'man Battista stated that he knows residents that would like to interview for this job. A vote of three no and two yes was taken. The motion was not carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Richard Coseo as Constable. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to appoint Ed McWayne as an alternate member of the ZBA. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to reappoint Brooke McDowell as a member of the ZBA. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to reappoint Deborah Johnston as a member of the Planning Board. There are residents interested in applying for this position also. A vote of two yes and three no was taken and the motion was not carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to appoint Ken Lawrence Jr. to the Board of Assessment Review. All vote aye and the motion was carried.

An advertisement will be placed in the newspaper for applications to be accepted for the Zoning Officer and Planning Board member positions at the Town Clerk's office. A date will be set up to interview candidates.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 10-05, establishing salaries and wage rates. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 10-06, establishing Highway Department wage rates for 2010. C'man Battista asked if this affects negotiations with the Highway Department and the answer was no. Mr. Battista also asked if the same negotiator is in place and the answer was yes. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 10-07, authorizing professional development and training for town staff, elected officials and board/committee members. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by Supervisor Scee for resolution #10-08, authorizing purchases by Highway Dept. for 2010. Supervisor Scee explained that this would raise the purchases without Board approval to less than five thousand dollars. After a discussion a vote of two yes and three no was taken and the motion was not carried.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Cobb for an amended resolution #10-08, authorizing purchases by Highway Dep. for 2010 to include purchases of less than \$3,000 without Board approval. A discussion was held concerning highway dept. purchases and rentals. A vote was taken of four yes and one no. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista for resolution #10-09, authorizing health insurance/vision care premiums for 2010. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista for resolution # 10-10, authorizing Highway Dept. uniform agreement for 2010. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista for resolution # 10-11, establishing fees for services. C'man Battista suggested that the returned check fee be raise to \$25 and the Board agreed to eliminate the charge for photocopies. On this amended resolution all voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 10-12, establishing mileage rate for official Town business. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington for resolution # 10-13, establishing Town Supervisor office hours. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk