

## TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 9, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board, Town of Hounsfield, N.Y. was called to order by Supervisor Jean H. Derouin at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, Co. Rt. 66, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present were: Supervisor Derouin, C'men, Steve Lee, David Cobb, Ken Lawrence Jr., and C'woman Yvonne Podvin.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Cobb to pass Annual Resolution 1-28 as read by the Clerk to the Supervisor. All members voted yes in a roll call vote. The motion was carried.

Supervisor Derouin designated the following Board Liaisons: C'man Lawrence for Fire Department and Emergency Planning, C'woman Podvin for Planning Board and ZBA, C'man Lee for Water and Sewer, C'man Cobb for Revaluation, Highway Dept. major equipment and Capital Projects.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lawrence to approve the minutes of 12/12/07. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Cobb reported on calls about parking in the road on the Foster Park Road. The Highway Superintendent thinks these problems will be solved this year. He will monitor this over the summer.

C'man Cobb was glad that the Public Hearing for the Fire Department was not canceled. It was good to hear that the two Companies still can work well together in spite of the proposal to split financially.

C'man Cobb also wanted to ask Supervisor Derouin some questions about spending on the new heating system at the Court Building. He said that he feels the taxes were increased this year because of the spending on the Court Building.

C'man Cobb asked the Highway Superintendent about fuel costs and made a motion that the Town get on State bid for all fuels we use. This was 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee announced that the bid opening for Water District 4 (Storrs Road) is scheduled for Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of January and the Water Committee meeting will be held immediately after that.

C'man Lawrence commended the Town Board for having the Public Hearing on the Fire Department and he thought that good information came from it. He also wanted to set a date for a meeting with the Village Board to discuss how to handle the proposed split of Company 2. Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM was tentatively set to meet at the Town Hall. When the Village confirms it will be posted in the newspaper.

C'woman Podvin reported that she and C'man Lee have interviewed for the position of ZBA Chairperson and she made a motion to appoint Christine Eggleston as Chair of the ZBA. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'woman Podvin also reported that she has been researching the issue with the Fire Department with people at ISO and Fire Protection and Control who are impartial. She will share with the Board and the public when she receives the information. She would also like to see a member from the Planning Board and the ZBA attend each Town Board meeting to keep all boards informed of what is being done in the Town. Supervisor Derouin thought that is a good idea and they will work on that.

The Highway Superintendent gave his work report for the month of December. He also told the Board he would like to hire an MEO to fill a vacancy. Supervisor Derouin said there is a need to fill the position and the Board agreed.

A Water Department report was given by Jeff Kenney. He also reported on the water testing for the wells on Rt 180 and it was favorable. He needs to start working on easements for District 3 and C'woman Podvin volunteered to help with that.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Podvin to authorize the Supervisor to proceed with the purchase of two wells and a well protection area of about two acres from the Red Maples Trailer Park on Rt. 180 for the agreed price of \$45,000. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Zoning Officer's report was given by Marlene Lennox. She discussed the problem of deed restrictions with the Board. The Board will research this.

The Assessor's report was given by Jean Rogers for December.

The Supervisor's report was given: Total Receipts \$148,269.16, Total Disbursements \$201,465.73, Bank Balances \$86,345.00, and Total Investments were \$352,398.74. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'woman Podvin to approve the Supervisor's report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Derouin reviewed the bills in abstract #1, vouchers #1-41.

General Fund A	\$ 53,968.96
General Fund B	315.57
Highway Fund A	44,018.82
Highway Fund B	20,000.00
Water District 2	1,273.17
Water District 1	<u>319.70</u>
Total	\$119,896.22

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lawrence to approve the bills in abstract #1. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lawrence was asked to review the bills for February and March then C'woman will review them for the next three months.

There is a meeting with the president of RidgeviewTel on 1/11/08 at 8:00 AM to discuss signing up for the wireless internet service. Information will be on the Town website and at the Town Clerk's office.

Supervisor Derouin made a motion and C'man Lawrence 2<sup>nd</sup> that the Board authorize Supervisor Derouin to sign a contract to award the bid for construction of Water District 4 after the bids are reviewed. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee for a resolution that Upstate Power will reimburse the Town for reasonable legal and engineering fees incurred in connection with the review of a Wind Powered Electric Generation Facility in the Town of Hounsfield. An account will be set up with an initial amount of \$15,000 for this purpose. All voted yes in a roll call vote and the motion was carried.

A conference call meeting will be held at Attorney Whelpley's office tomorrow morning with DEC to try and settle the Lead Agency issue for the proposed Wind Farm project. DEC has notified the Town that they want to be Lead Agency for the project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Cobb that the Board supports resolutions that the Association of Towns is taking to Albany to be passed: #1 Mandate Relief, #2 Increase in Justice Court Funding, #3 Fund the unfunded Mandate, #4 Highway Transportation Funding, #5 Speed Limits on Town roads, #6 Preserve & strengthen Local Government control over energy generation facilities, #10 Reform real property tax & assessment system, #11 Reform condominium assessments. All voted yes in a roll call vote and the motion was carried.

A Justice Court year end report was given by Justice Gary Loomis.

A report for East Hounsfield Library was given by Jay Rivest. The library has a job opening for part time library staff. If anyone is interested please contact Sandy Farrington at the Library.

Jeannie McCabe was present to announce that the Bed Tax applications will be available at the end of the week at the Town Clerk's office.

Sharry Rogers was present to ask if the Town could bring a conclusion to the proposed changes to the Zoning Law? Supervisor Derouin and C'woman Podvin will work on this.

Vonnice Joels was present to poll the Board on this question: Would the members of the Town Board agree to contract with the Town of Hounsfield Fire Company, Inc. or any other fire company in which most of the members of Station 2 join, if a judge were to give sufficient equipment to that fire company so that it could provide adequate fire protection to the Town? The members of the Board all said that they would agree to that.

The Highway Superintendent researched a question about a weight limit for the Campbell's Point stone bridge and he found that there is no weight limit on it. The Board agreed that there should be weight limits on both this bridge and the stone bridge on the Military Road.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee to designate the term of the Zoning Officer as 2 years. This term will expire 12/31/09. All members agreed and the motion was carried.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier  
Town Clerk