

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD

October 8, 2008

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

Members present were: Supervisor Derouin, Councilmen: Steve Lee, David Cobb, and Ken Lawrence Jr., and Councilwoman Yvonne Podvin.

Supervisor Derouin announced that Blue Heron Landing is removed from the Agenda tonight. The developers are reviewing their standings with Blue Heron and will decide how to proceed with it then.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'man Lee to approve the minutes of the 10/10/08 meeting. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The floor was opened for public comment and Judy Alcombrack Stream was present to read a letter from Robert Overton of Foster Park Road, in favor of the Sulphur Springs Fire Department staying in operation. Vonnice Joels of Sulphur Springs FD was present with a proposed fire protection contract between the Town of Hounsfield and the Town of Hounsfield Fire Company. Mrs. Joels would like the Board to consider entering into this agreement when the Town Fire Co. has their own equipment. She also told the Board that an appeal has been filed since the request to separate from Sackets Harbor Fire Dept. was denied. Steve Sullivan, Chairman of the Board of Directors for Sackets Harbor FD, was present and said that he was not aware that members of Co. 2 were actually leaving the department until tonight. He urged the Town Board to think carefully about the impact on the Town, whatever they decide to do but he would like to see the entire department stay together.

Other residents spoke about the Fire Dept. issue and Supervisor Derouin suggested the idea of the Town forming a fire district with elected fire commissioners.

C'man Cobb reported that he has been working on the budget, fire department issues and he has a proposal to rent an office space to the Village in the Public Safety Building for the Police Department. This will be presented to the Village Board at their meeting next week.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee meeting and a Water EDU meeting and has been working on the budget.

C'man Lawrence reported that he worked on the Budget.

After reviewing the bills in Abstract # 10, vouchers # 605 – 659, C'man Lawrence made a motion and C'man Cobb 2nd to approve them.

General Fund A	\$ 25,263.91
General Fund B	2,320.14
Highway Fund A	18,131.48
Highway Fund B	5,262.71
Water District 2	12,762.15
Water District 1	92.98
Water System Improvements	100,902.77
Wind Power Fund	<u>3,297.00</u>
Abstract Total	\$168,033.14

All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'woman Podvin reported that she attended a ZBA Meeting and a Planning Board Meeting and has reviewed the Budget. She thinks there should be more oversight on Fire Dept. expenditures by the Village and again asks for a breakdown of money spent by Sackets Harbor Fire Company Inc. C'woman Podvin makes a point that the Town Supervisor had a fire protection contract drawn up between the Village and the Town while the mayor of Sackets Harbor has made no attempt to get one.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report for September. He suggested an article be in the newspaper to keep residents from leaving trash at the recycling center. A discussion was held about the price of salt for the roads this winter. A thank you note was received from the Village for help received from the Town Highway Dept. in cleaning up after the wind storm from Hurricane Ike.

A Water Department report for September was given by Jeff Kenny. The surveillance recorder at the water tower is operational now and has the capability of being expanded for other sites. He also gave a progress report on the addition to the Highway Building and improvements at the Public Safety Building.

The Zoning Officer gave a report. The new sign for the Highway Building will be here tomorrow and installed across the road from the Highway Building driveway before election day. It will help people find the Highway Dept., the Town Clerk's Office and the Polling Place for Dist. 2.

The Assessor's Report was given by Jean Rogers.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2nd by C'man Lawrence to hire Marlene Norfolk at the rate of \$30 hr. for revaluation of commercial property in the Town. All members voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2nd by C'man Lee to reappoint Eldon Frechette to the Board of Assessment Review for a term of five years, 10/1/08 to 9/30/13. All members voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Supervisor's Report was presented: Total Receipts- \$339,401.71, Total Disbursements \$271,599.14, Bank Balances \$189,013.71 and Total Investments \$407,399.93. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to approve the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Derouin and 2nd by C'woman Podvin to set a Public Hearing for the 2009 Budget for 11/5/08 at 6:30 PM, a Public Hearing for a Fire Protection Agreement with the Village of Sackets Harbor for 11/5/08 at 7:00 PM and the November regular Town Board meeting will follow the 7 o'clock hearing on 11/5/08. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'woman Podvin proposed that the cost of the preparation of this fire protection agreement be subtracted from payment to the Village of Sackets Harbor.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin to authorize Supervisor Derouin to contract to purchase two water wells, and approximately 5.85 acres, on NYS Rt. 180 for \$45,000. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lawrence to enter into a Legal and Bond Counsel Services Agreement with the firm, Schwerzmann & Wise, P.C. for Water District 3. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At 8:16 PM the Board went into an executive session on a personnel matter.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 9:10 PM and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk