

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 10, 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.

Board members present were: Supervisor Scee and councilmen Stephen Lee, David Cobb, Todd Farrington and Vincent Battista.

Supervisor Scee announced that representatives of Bernier, Carr were present to report on a design of a boiler system for the Town Barn. They answered questions from the Board.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to approve minutes from Board meeting held 1/13/10. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

In correspondence, Supervisor Scee received notice of the Annual Local Government Conference to be held at JCC on 4/1/10, a Jefferson County Land Use Planning Workshop also to be held at JCC on 2/24/10, and a letter from the Can Am Parade Committee inviting Town Board members to march in the annual parade in Sackets Harbor on 7/17/10 at 11 AM. The Supervisor also noted that he has received many letters in support of the Zoning Officer, Marlene Lennox, being reappointed and he asked the Town Clerk to read a few of those letters for examples.

The Supervisor's Report was given: Receipts: \$247,615.06, Disbursements: \$106,335.34, Bank Balances: \$221,383.98, and Investments: \$101,902.56. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to accept the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract # 2, vouchers # 38-120, was presented and reviewed by the Board.

General Fund A	\$ 15,169.09
General Fund B	51.40
Lakeside Cemetery Fund	1,258.28
Highway Fund A	44,032.25
Highway Fund B	945.99
Water District 2	78,686.22
Water District 1	3,111.10
Water District 4	166.44
Water District 3	810.71
Water District 3 Capital Fund	249,944.89
Fire Protection	<u>3,550.00</u>
Abstract Total	\$ 397,726.37

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to pay the bills in Abstract # 2. All members voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee meeting, and he met with Village Trustee, Pete Daly on shared services. He thanked the Highway Superintendent for applying to the insurance company and receiving \$13,000 toward a new boiler and he commended the Highway crew on a good job of keeping the roads cleared this winter. C'man Lee received a letter from Department of Health saying that they held inspections of the Town water systems and they were pleased with the operating and maintenance. Thanks and job well done goes to Jeff Kenney and Mike Urbanowicz.

C'man Cobb reported that he missed the Fire Department meeting. He thanked everyone who has worked on the Galloo Island wind farm project in the town and our residents that have supported it. C'man Cobb also thanked our legislator, Barry Ormsby.

C'man Battista reported that the Bed Tax Committee has not met yet and he has contacted the two Libraries to set up meetings to go over their budgets, issues and concerns.

Supervisor Scee reported that he attended the Village Board meeting last night and thanked them for helping our crew in a water leak on the Military Road.

C'man Farrington reported that he has been working with the Highway Superintendent on the boiler issue. He has had many calls on the Zoning Officer issue. He attended the Village Board meeting.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report and thanked the Village crew for helping with the water leak and exhibiting shared services.

The Town Clerk reported that she is still collecting taxes and has submitted the check for the Town's portion to the Supervisor. She also read a letter to the Board in support of the current Zoning Officer, Marlene Lennox, being reappointed.

Supervisor Scee opened the floor for public comment and many residents spoke in support of Marlene Lennox, Zoning Officer, being reappointed and against an unsigned letter sent out about the Water Superintendent, Jeff Kenney, taking breaks at a diner in Dexter with the Town pickup. There were comments about the lack of heat in the Town Barn and offices also. Comments were made by Bob Bendwell, Paul Locy, Larry Reynolds, Michele Avery, Yvonne Podvin, and Kathy Mereand.

Under unfinished business Supervisor Scee explained that interviews were held last week for Zoning Officer and Planning Board member and that C'man Farrington was not present but he talked to applicants on the phone. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by Supervisor Scee to reappoint Marlene Lennox, Zoning Officer. In a roll call vote, C'men Battista, Farrington and Cobb voted no. C'man Lee and Supervisor Scee voted yes and the motion was not carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Mark Farrington Zoning Officer. There were comments from the floor that C'man Farrington should not be voting on this issue at all if his brother is an applicant. A roll call vote was taken. C'men Battista and Cobb voted yes and C'man Farrington recused himself because Mark Farrington is his brother. C'man Lee and Supervisor Scee voted no and the motion was not carried.

C'man Lee made a motion to reinterview the top five applicants for Zoning Officer but there was no 2nd to the motion.

C'man Cobb made a motion and C'man Farrington 2nd to appoint Bob Bouchard as Zoning Officer. In discussion, C'man Lee disclosed that before the meeting C'man Cobb had tried to sway C'man Lee's vote toward Mark Farrington by saying he would bring up Mr. Bouchard's name for appointment and put him in office if C'man Lee did not vote for Mark. C'man Lee said he did not go for politics like that. In a roll call vote, C'men Battista, Farrington and Cobb voted yes and C'man Lee and Supervisor Scee voted no. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to reappoint Deb Johnston to the Planning Board member position. C'man Lee stated that Mrs. Johnston has done a good job for the Town. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

A lengthy discussion was held on the heating issue at the Highway Building and a motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to review the engineering recommendations, meet with William Lawler for advice on the best way to set up a system. In discussion C'man Cobb said he would like to get Mr. Lawler's input and set up a split system in the original boiler room. He also said that this process should have begun in November. C'man Battista commented that he would like to see the bidders given a time frame of two weeks to work up their bids and after it is installed, a maintenance agreement for the new heating system to take the burden off the Highway Department. All members voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee reported that a speed reduction request for Lee and Lodi roads has been denied by the State Department of Transportation.

Christine Eggleston reported on planning ethics training for all Town employees, including elected & appointed

Supervisor Scee made a motion and C'man Cobb 2nd to rescind resolution #09-68 and authorize the Town Clerk to post unapproved Board minutes, marked as such, on the Town website within two weeks after the Board meetings. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 10-14, to authorize the allocation of up to \$2450 for the appraisal of Knobby Knoll for assessment legal proceedings. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 10-15, to authorize the naming of Knobby Knoll streets 1-7 as requested by Jefferson County Real Property Tax office. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 10-16, to authorize the renaming of Co. Rt. 62, from NYS Rt. 3 to the Village limits, to Sulphur Springs Road. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington for resolution # 10-17, to authorize the Supervisor to apply to Rural Development for more funds (\$500,000) to construct Water District #5. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The floor was opened for public comment and there was more support for Marlene Lennox and disappointment in the Town Board members that did not acknowledge over 200 signatures or many letters for her and did not vote to reappoint her from Kathy Mereand, Bob Bendwell, and Paul Locy. Sharry Rogers commented on the transmission lines route from the wind farm project and the law suite from Town of Henderson. An unidentified man spoke against the wind farm. Kathy Snyder thanked the Board for the reappointment of Deb Johnston to the Planning Board. Steve Herman asked the Board, what Marlene Lennox and Jeff Kenney have done wrong and there were no answers from the Board.

Supervisor Scee was asked by Jim Wright of DANC to notify the residents of the Town of Hounsfield that DANC had no part in the unsigned letter sent out about the Town Water Dept. Superintendent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. Submitted by Diane M. Nier, Town Clerk

