

HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 11, 2009

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

Board members present were : Supervisor DelSignore, C'men Stephen Lee, David Cobb, Ken Lawrence Jr. and C'woman Yvonne Podvin.

The floor was opened for public comments and Paul Brown was present and asked the Board if a committee could be appointed to gather information for a future zoning law pertaining to commercial wind turbines in our Town. He also had a question on the closing of Water District # 4. Maryann DeClerk was present and asked if the Town has had an audit recently and the answer was no. Tim Scee was present to ask when the extension of Water District # 5 was added. Sherry Herman was present to thank the Board for any support given for Rachel's Challenge program which will be held on 4/29 at the school. Rocco Crescenzi was present to challenge the Town Board to reduce the town tax levy for 2010 and to consider not purchasing any more large equipment items for a few years. George DeClerk asked why the Highway Superintendent does not have a Town of Hounsfield sign on his pickup truck. At this time the privilege of the floor was closed.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'man Cobb to approve the original minutes of 1/14/09. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence to approve the minutes of a special meeting on 1/28/09. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin to approve the minutes of 2/11/09 with an amendment. The amendment would add to paragraph 3 on page 3, concerning the Case Loader: During discussion, C'man Lee asked the Supervisor if he had obtained legal advise on the purchase of this loader and he answered no, but then C'man Lee turned to the Town Attorney and asked the same question and the answer was yes. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor DelSignore announced that copies of department reports are available to the public.

In correspondence, the Supervisor received a letter from Jefferson County Volunteer Transportation Center requesting the budgeted funds from the Town and thanking them.

Another letter was received from the Jefferson County Agricultural Society asking for any funding possible since the State has proposed funding cuts for county fair premiums. The Supervisor noted that the Bed Tax Funds have been allocated for this year.

The Supervisor announced congratulations are given to the school basketball program because both the boys and girls teams went to the state sectionals.

Council members gave reports.

Supervisor DelSignore gave a monthly report including: Disbursements of \$817,673.82, Receipts of \$150,753.64, Cash in bank of \$109,352.27, and Investments of \$651,901.12.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 09-34, to approve the Supervisor's report. All members voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract #3, vouchers # 103-158 was presented.

General Fund A	\$ 21,474.72
General Fund B	434.95
Lakeside Cemetery Fund	40.00
Highway Fund A	18,280.18
Highway Fund B	827.41
Water District 2	796.47
Water District 1	104.34
Water District 4	17.87
Fire Protection	<u>7,100.00</u>
Abstract Total	\$ 49,075.94

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-35, to approve payment of bills in abstract # 3. A discussion was held and C'woman Podvin stated that she does not like to have legal bills of about \$2500 that were authorized by the Supervisor when the other members of the Board are not notified to be a part of the decision and she would like to see a resolution passed that requires the Supervisor to get Board approval before spending over \$1000. The Supervisor responded that it would not be practical to do that. An amended motion for resolution #09-35, to approve payment of bills in abstract # 3 after removal of voucher 141 & 142 was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin. After discussion a vote resulted in two ayes from members Lee and Podvin and three nays from members Cobb, Lawrence and Supervisor DelSignore and the motion, as amended, was defeated.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by Supervisor DelSignore for the original resolution # 09-35, to approve payment of bills in abstract # 3. A vote was taken and resulted in three aye votes from Cobb, DelSignore and Lawrence and two nays from Lee and Podvin. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 09-36, authorizing appointments to the Town of Hounsfield residential energy committee. Appointees are Christine Eggleston, Don Dimonda, Sharry Rogers, Genie McKay, Kevin Smith, Janet Quinn, Dwayne Eppley, Dean Anthony, and Todd Farrington. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-37, accepting a bid from Monroe Tractor for a Case Loader, Model #821E with options. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 09-38, accepting a purchase agreement for Case Loader, Model #821E, with options with a price of \$148,523.34 minus a \$50,000.00 trade-in allowance for our 2000 Case Loader. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-39, authorizing payment of \$98,523.34 to Monroe Tractor for the purchase of a Case Loader, Model # 821E with options from the 2009 Highway Dept. Budget. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-40, awarding bids for the construction of Town of Hounsfield Water District # 3. Contract # 1 – Pipeline Construction is awarded to North Country Contractors, LLC, Henderson, NY with a base bid of \$2,444,000 and an alternate bid with HDPE at \$2,508,958 and Contract # 2 – Electrical is awarded to S&L Electric, Colton, NY with a base bid of \$40,000. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 09-41, authorizing to hire Couch White for wind power consultation services at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-42, adopting Loan Resolution For RUS Bulletin 1780-27, Bond Anticipation Note for 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 for resolution # 09-43, authorizing Water District # 4 project as complete and recommending final payment. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb for resolution # 09-44, approving Bed Tax Committee allocations for 2009. They are as follows: Can Am Festival Committee \$2,000, Sackets Harbor Historical Society \$1,000, Hay Memorial Library \$500, Sackets Harbor Fire Dept. \$750, Sackets Harbor Jazz Festival \$500, Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce \$1,500, Sackets Harbor Battlefield Alliance \$750. Seaway Trail Foundation \$250, East Hounsfield Library \$250. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor DelSignore and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 09-45, to authorize an allocation of \$200 for support of Rachel's Challenge, a program that will be held at Sackets Harbor School. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 09-46, authorizing the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator for the Town Office Building at a cost of \$1690. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held about the high legal bills that have been received relating to Teamsters Local 687 and who should be represented by the union. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin for resolution # 09-47, approval to include the Town of Hounsfield Water Superintendent, Deputy Highway Superintendent, and Laborer in the Teamsters Local 687 representation.

After more discussion about which positions should be included in the resolution, A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin to amend the above resolution # 09-47 as follows: Approval to include the Town of Hounsfield Water Superintendent in the Teamsters Local 687 representation. After more discussion a vote was taken as follows: C'man Lee voted yes, C'man Cobb voted no, C'woman Podvin voted yes, C'man Lawrence voted yes and Supervisor DelSignore voted no. The motion was carried with a 3-2 vote.

In respect to the question on Water Dist. 5 extension from Mr. Scee, Supervisor DelSignore reported that Kris Dimmick had said it was his understanding that the extension was approved by the Town Board in July 2008. The entire Board agreed to continue with District 5 and C'man Lee would like to get more survey information from those residents.

A discussion was held about the electrical bids received for the Highway Building addition.

It was announced that a zoning committee work session is scheduled for March 18th at 4:00 PM.

A special Town Board Meeting was scheduled for March 16th at 4:00 PM for the purpose of considering resolutions for Water District 5.

A joint Town/Village Board meeting will be held at the Public Safety Building on March 25th at 3:30 PM.

A Wind Farm Hearing will be held on May 18th at 3 PM and 7 PM at the Public Safety Building.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin for resolution # 09-48, authorizing Jeff Kenney, Water Superintendent, to be involved in inspection of construction of Water District 3 and report to the Board. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk