

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 10, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hounsfeld 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 Deb Johnston, a member of the Planning Board, requested that the Planning Board have a copy of the proposed zoning law amendment to review and report their recommendations to the Town Board before the law goes to the County Planning for review. The Planning Board feels they need a thorough knowledge of the proposed law and it's ramifications to all applicants since they are responsible for the interpretation and implementation of the Town Zoning Law. The Board members agreed to a copy of the proposed law being given to the Planning Board. The Zoning Officer said she will get the Planning Board a copy and she suggested that they also finish the process for the Local Law.

Lucy and John Angus were present to comment that the assessment grievance process was too strict. They were told that because they were not able to attend Grievance Day on May 26, they could not have an appointment for any following date that the Board of Assessment Review met. Joanne Heaslip of Hy Knoll Dr. was also present to speak about the high assessments and how residents who missed the deadline should still have a chance to talk to the Board of Assessment Review and get their questions answered on how their assessments are determined.

The Zoning Officer, Marlene Lennox, was present and commented on the steps that were taken with the amendment to the Zoning Law. She reminded the Board that the Planning Board started the process for the changes, they gave their recommendations to the Town Board, the Town Board committee worked on it more, the attorney reviewed, the County Planning reviewed and now if the Planning Board wants to make more changes, they should take it from there because a lot of work has been put into this result.

Kris Dimmick of Bernier, Carr, Assoc. was present with an update on Water Dist. 5. He announced that yesterday he attended the first formal meeting with USDA Rural Development and there was a tentative grant funding offer of 2.1 million for the 4.8 million project. He has not heard anything yet about any Federal grant funds. Attorney Dennis Whelpley added that the Comptroller's approval has been received for District 5 and that was a key piece to becoming shovel ready for the project. He said that the Board needs to approve two resolutions at this meeting and the Town still needs to access 0% loan and Federal grant funds to proceed.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'woman Podvin for resolution # 09-76, adopting the Final Order to Establish Water District 5. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 09-77, adopting the Water District 5 Bond and Authorization Resolution. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

Rachel Bernat of Bernier, Carr, Assoc. gave an update of construction progress for Water District 3.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence to approve minutes of the 5/13/09 meeting. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Correspondence: The Supervisor mentioned that copies of department reports are on the table by the entrance.

A letter was received from the Northern Corridor Transportation Group asking for a letter of support from the Town for a proposed four lane highway project into St. Lawrence County.

An email was received from Jay Rivest reminding the Board that they agreed to provide labor to correct a drainage problem at the East Hounsfield Library. A motion was made by C' man Lawrence and 2nd by C' man Lee for resolution # 09-78, authorizing the Highway Dept. to provide labor and equipment for the drainage project at the East Hounsfield Library with materials being charged to the General Fund. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

An email was received from Tim Abel who is working on the archeological report for Water Dist. 5 and hopes to have a draft report in a few weeks.

A letter was received from North Country Against Cancer asking use of the Public Safety Building during the Spoker Ride 2009 being held on July 25 and a motion was made by C' man Lee and 2nd by C' man Lawrence for resolution # 09-74, to authorize use of the Public Safety Building for the Spoker Ride fund raising event. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A letter was received from the Jefferson County Youth Bureau notifying the Town that the State Aid for the Town's 2009 recreation program is \$783.

C' man Cobb reported that he worked on zoning with the Zoning Officer, C' woman Podvin and Andy Nevin and he is please with the outcome of the amendment. He also attended a Board of Directors meeting of the Fire Dept. in May and a Dept. 1 meeting in June. The Fire Dept. By Laws will be voted on, the first of July.

C' man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee meeting and went out to the Dist 3 construction site and it looks like it is coming along very well.

C' man Lawrence reported that he worked with East Hounsfield Library on the drainage issue and he reviewed the amendment to the Zoning Law.

C' woman Podvin reported that she attended a DEC hearing on the Wind Power project, a Town/Village Board meeting, a zoning work session, a briefing with the union negotiator, and the Village Board meeting.

The Supervisor reported on various meetings, conference calls and hearings he attended since the last Board meeting. A list is filed with attachments to the minutes.

The Supervisor's report was given: Receipts - \$39,899.79, Disbursements - \$250,558.56, Bank Balances of \$36,950.95 and Investments of \$476,901.59

The Supervisor conducted a payroll audit and gave a report to board members. He would like to have their comments on it in the near future.

The Supervisor hopes to get some budget figures to board members after there is a final assessment role.

Council members received abstract # 6, vouchers # 304-352.

General Fund A	\$ 11,705.81
General Fund B	1,272.44
Lakeside Cemetery Fund	117.92
Highway Fund A	5,962.07
Highway Fund B	14,460.35
Water District 2	1,830.14
Water District 1	191.01
Water District 4	<u>195.29</u>
Abstract Total	\$ 35,735.03

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-69, to approve payment of bills in abstract # 6. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-70, 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 Lawrence for resolution # 09-71, to approve a payment policy for Lakeside Cemetery. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee for resolution # 09-72, to approve an agreement for relocation of the Village Police Department to the Town Public Safety Building. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lawrence for resolution # 09-73, authorizing introduction of Local Law # 1 of 2009 which allows amendments to the Town of Hounsfield Zoning Law. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lawrence and 2nd by C'woman Podvin for resolution # 09-75, to authorize the Town of Hounsfield entering into an Emergency Water Supply Agreement with City of Watertown, Town of Watertown, and Village of Sackets Harbor in the event that the City, Towns or Village had an emergency and needed to purchase water from one of the other municipalities through the future water connection on NYS Rt. 3 at the Hounsfield-Watertown line. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held about Town roads and a proposal to accept a portion of Co. Rt. 62 which is west of NYS Rt. 3.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'woman Podvin for resolution # 09-79, approval to accept 1.22 miles of Co. Rt. 62 from NYS Rt. 3 to Co. Rt. 75 in the Village of Sackets Harbor, from Jefferson County. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Supervisor gave packets, with a collective bargaining agreement, to board members to review. A date was tentatively set to meet with the negotiator and review the agreement.

C'man Lee asked Jeff Kenney, the Water Operator, if the master meter on the Storrs Road is working properly and Jeff replied that the meter is not accurate. It is actually reading lower than what is being billed. Jeff had a representative from the company that sells that meter come and look at it and he determined that it is the wrong style meter for that low rate of water flow. A new meter in the correct style costs \$3326.40. C'man Lee added that the significance of the meter malfunction is that a slow leak in District 4 may go undetected. Jeff added that when the project was constructed the contractor submitted a choice of meter and it was approved by the engineer. A discussion was held on this problem.

Legislator Barry Ormsby gave a brief airport report. Approval has been received from USDOT and FAA for reconstruction of taxi way A.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk