

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Hounsfield Town Board was called to order at 7pm by Supervisor Timothy Scee at the Town Hall, 18774 Co. Rt. 66 and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Board members present were: Supervisor Scee, Councilmember Todd Farrington, Councilmember Carson Lennox, Councilmember Victoria Pritty-Pitcher, and Councilmember Corry Lawler.

Supervisor Scee welcomed new Councilmembers Pritty-Pitcher and Lawler to the Board.

Supervisor Scee announced that a public hearing will be held on a proposed Local Law which will amend the Zoning Law to allow an expansion of the Industrial District within and adjacent to the Watertown International Airport on NYS Rt. 12F. The Zoning Officer explained that the need for this is for a safety zone when expanding two runways. Attorney David Renzi added that this will involve 1,060 acres.

At this time the Supervisor opened the hearing for public comment. A few questions were asked about ownership of the property involved and this hearing was closed.

Attorney David Renzi reviewed the SEQRA form questions with the Board for the proposed zoning amendment to allow an expansion of the Industrial District within and adjacent to the Watertown International Airport and a motion was made by C'member Pritty-Pitcher and 2nd by C'member Lawler to issue a negative declaration on this matter. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Attorney Renzi read resolution #16-4, and a motion was made by C'member Lawler and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to pass resolution #16-04, to adopt Local Law #1 of 2016, amending Local Law #2 of 1988, to expand the Industrial District within and adjacent to the Watertown International Airport to allow for runway expansions. All voted aye and the motion carried.

A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Lennox to approve the minutes of the Town Board meeting held on 12/9/15. All voted aye and the motion carried.

A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Lennox to approve the minutes of the Town Board meeting held on 12/30/15. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Supervisor Scee shared the correspondence he received: a Historian Report for 2015 from Jeanne Brenon, a notice for the Tug Hill Conference at JCC on March 31, 2016 for municipal officers, a notice of FEMA funds awarded to our Highway Dept. for an ice storm last year, and an introductory letter from Apex Energy who is now involved in the Wind Farm project on Galloo Island.

The Supervisor's Report for December was read by the outgoing Clerk to the Supervisor: Total receipts \$325,602.76, Total disbursements \$260,885.62, Total cash in bank \$277,506.02, Total investments \$500,000.00. Also included is a comparative bank balances sheet for 2015. A motion was made by C'member Lennox and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to accept the Supervisor's Report for December 2015. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Lennox to pay bills in abstract #1, vouchers # 100001-1000055: General Fund A \$37,064.82, General Fund B \$1,951.42, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$1,298.00, Highway Fund A \$56,773.05, Highway Fund B \$33,494.42, Water Dist. 2 \$91,572.50, Water Dist. 5 \$3,840.47, Water Dist. 1 \$4,453.70, Water Dist. 4 \$967.78, Water Dist. 3 \$2,333.19, Abstract Total \$233,749.35. All voted aye. Carried.

C'member Reports were given.

Supervisor Scee gave assignments for 2016: C'member Farrington will report on Highway Dept., Courts and Fire Dept. and named Deputy Supervisor. C'member Lennox will report on Water and Sewer. C'member Pritty-Pitcher will report on Bed Tax Committee and Libraries. C'member Lawler will report on the Joint Recreation Commission.

The Water Operator reported on a water leak on Route 3 near the Vet Clinic.

The Highway Superintendent was not present but gave copies of his report to council members.

Under unfinished business, the Water Operator reported that since the Town will need to purchase an aeration system for our water tower, he has a copy of a webinar for Town officials to view on aeration systems that help with disinfectant by products.

A motion was made by C'member Lennox and 2nd by C'member Farrington for Resolution #16-01, the Annual Organizational Resolution, adopting policies, designations, appointments, salaries, wage rates and establishing fees. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher for Resolution #16-02 designating water rates for District 1-5 for 2016. All voted aye and the motion carried.

A motion was made by C'member Lawler and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher for Resolution #16-03 to update an agreement with NYS Dept. of Transportation to allow the Town to work in State right of ways without applying for permits. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A response was received from the NYS Retirement System to a request for information on the cost associated with the 41-j plan (an allowance of unused sick leave credits). The State informed the Town that the annual cost of this plan is \$1,085. Councilmembers noted that our

Town has very low retirement rate in discussion.

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A motion was made by C'member Lawler and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher that the Town of Hounsfield does not join the 41-j plan with the NYS Retirement System. All voted aye, carried

A discussion was held on a Teamsters Health insurance issue that has arisen with the deductible payments for employees. A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to table this matter to receive more information. All ayes. Carried.

A motion was made by C'member Lawler and 2nd by C 'member Pritty-Pitcher to purchase four banquet tables and a coffee maker to use for events held at the Town buildings. All ayes,carried

The floor was then opened for public comments and there were comments on ZBA member wages and the proposed sewer project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to schedule a Public Hearing on 2/10/16 at 7pm for public comment on the possibility of the Town bonding for the cost of an aeration system for the Town water tower in water district 2. All ayes,carried.

A motion was made by C'member Lawler and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to approve a water credit request of \$50 in late fees because of inaccurate readings. All voted aye. Carried.

A motion was made by C'member Farrington and 2nd by C'member Lawler to approve a water credit request of \$ 110 in late fees because of inaccurate readings. All ayes. Carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'member Pritty-Pitcher to refuse a water credit request of \$24.90 in a late fee because of customer error in mailing payment. All ayes. Carried.

This meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk