

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 11, 2010 (Revised)

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.

Members present were: Supervisor Scee, and Councilmen: Stephen Lee, David Cobb, Todd Farrington and Vincent Battista.

Supervisor Scee had comments to the public about the "privilege of the floor" and how it is meant for comments and not for a question and answer period. It is also not meant for bringing up issues over and over again that have been acted on by the Board in the past.

A motion was made by C'man Lee to approve the minutes of the 7/7/10 meeting and a 2nd was made by C'man Battista. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Correspondence: Supervisor Scee received a request from the Town Justices for an increase in hours for their court clerk due to a new law that will require more paper work to be prepared. The request was to increase the hours to 30 per week. The clerk to the supervisor indicated that the court clerk could increase a few hours a week as needed now and still stay within the budget. The Board agreed to that and a further increase in hours will be discussed at budget time. East Hounsfield Library also sent a budget request.

The Can Am Committee invited the Board to a Thank You Reception on August 17th at 6:30 PM and the Supervisor reminded the Board that there is a Wind Power meeting here for the proposed transmission line routes at 6 PM the same night but the Board should be able to attend both functions.

Supervisor's Report: Receipts for July: \$998,624.50, Disbursements: \$259,055.84, Checking account totals: \$821,377.59, and Investment balance: \$601,902.94. 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.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Lee to pay the bills in Abstract #8, vouchers #437-519: General Fund A \$31,526.11, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$263.00, Highway Fund A \$8,036.12, Highway Fund B \$9,775.17, Water District 2 \$4,897.82, Water District 1 \$14,176.22, Water District 4 \$369.10, Water District 3 \$947.69, Water District 4 Capital Fund \$94,257.04, Water District 3 Capital Fund \$687,719.32, Totaling \$851,967.59. All voted aye and the motion carried.

C'man Lee reported that he met with the Village last month to discuss water availability for District 5 and they discussed an incident at Westcott's Beach on July 4th that caused very high usage and caused a production problem in the Village. He said that a production study of the Town's wells should be done for District 5. If we have a problem again, the City of Watertown has agreed to sell the Town water. C'man Lee also reported that the old water tower has been removed and a request of New York State for a water expansion at Robbins Farm has been denied. Another request has been submitted to New York State for a water pit at the district line for the Pitcher family to hook a lateral to at their cost.

C'man Cobb reported that he attended a Fire Dept. meeting last week. They have a training schedule for new members and there were 28 ambulance calls in July. The 2010-2011 budget has been distributed to Town Board members.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb to renew the annual contract with the Sackets Harbor Fire Dept. for \$55,000 and C'man Battista 2nd the motion. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Battista shared a report for Hay Memorial Library.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended the Cemetery Committee and their rules and regulations should be accepted later in the meeting. Two of the restorations for District 3 have been done and the 3rd will be done soon. C'man Farrington attended the bid opening last week and the road work grant preapplication was approved and the main grant application should be ready to submit next week.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report for July. He spoke about the neighbors of the Public Safety building in the Village having complaints about members of war reenactments camping there. The Board agreed with Mr. Alcombrack that signs should be installed.

The Town Clerk gave a collection report.

Kris Dimmick of Bernier Carr Assoc. gave an update of the new tower project and he also reported on the bids opened for the heating system which were: Hyde-Stone, Watertown, NY \$53,500, Derouin's Plumbing & Heating, Watertown, NY \$50,241, and Empire Northeast, Gouverneur \$57,286.

A discussion was held by the Board and because the low bid is over the budgeted amount they agreed to take the balance from contingency fund.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2nd by C'man Farrington to accept the low bid of \$50,241 from Derouin's Plumbing & Heating, Watertown with an add on of \$1,342 for flushing the system. In a roll call vote all voted yes and the motion was carried.

C'man Battista added that two new air conditioning units were offered as a donation to the Town by Mr. Lawler and the Board agreed to accept them.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Christine Eggleston to the Water Committee filling a vacancy. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Mayor Constance announced that a joint Town/Village Board meeting will be held on 8/19/10 at 8:30 AM at the Village office to discuss the Joint Recreation Commission and the Village water plant. He added that the Village made two appointments to this commission at their meeting last night, which are, Karen Mince and Sandy Farrington and he asked the Town Board to appoint their choices tonight. Mayor Constance set a date of August 24th at 6:00 PM at the Village office for the first commission meeting and he gave an overview of what they hope to accomplish.

Mayor Constance also presented a list of proposed responsibilities for an agreement between the Village and the Town for maintenance of the Public Safety Building since the building is now shared by the Town and Village. Supervisor Scee suggested to vote on the agreement at the joint meeting on August 19th.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Battista to appoint Chris Allen and Russell Williams, as Town members to the joint recreation commission. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to appoint Jeff Kenney as a member, at large, on the joint recreation commission with an exception because he actually lives in the Town of Henderson. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to accept the preapplication form and SEQR form for the Thirteen Mile High Paving Project Grant. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time the Board and Attorney Renzi completed the SEQR form for the Thirteen Mile High Paving Project Grant and a motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Cobb to issue a negative declaration for this project. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee made a motion and C'man Lee 2nd to use attorney David Renzi's services for processing easements on Water District 5. In discussion, C'men Battista and Cobb said they understood from previous discussions that a change would be made on any new projects but not District 5. Supervisor Scee stated that because of a significant hourly rate savings with attorney Renzi, this change needs to be made. In a roll call vote: C'man Battista voted no, C'man Farrington voted yes, C'man Lee voted yes, C'man Cobb voted no, and Supervisor Scee voted yes and the motion was carried.

Attorney David Renzi reported that the deed to Lakeside Cemetery is now recorded in the name of the Town of Hounsfield and he will start working on having the bank accounts transferred to the Town.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington for resolution #10-36, to adopt Lakeside Cemetery Rules and Regulations. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee reported on the work being done at the Muskalonge Cemetery on the Evans Road and announced that another work day for this will be Saturday the 14th and volunteers are welcome.

At this time the Privilege of the Floor was opened and a question was asked why the Slater Road can't be opened and the Highway Superintendent reported that there is a legal issued involved.

A comment was made that a discussion was held at an earlier Town meeting about what attorney to have work on Water District 5 but this was not in the minutes.

A letter was read by a resident asking the Town to bring municipal water to her home just outside water district 3. She gave suggestions of ways to make that happen, and encouraging the Board to act on this.

A comment was made that about \$7,000 in engineering fees were added to the cost of the heating system after the first bids were turned down by this board and the cost went from about \$30,000 to about \$60,000.

A request was made that when reporting the fund balances, to also report if the balance is on or over budget.

