

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 3, 2010

A Public Hearing was called to order by Supervisor Timothy Scee at 6:30 PM at 18774 Co. Rt. 66 for the purpose of hearing comments on the Town of Hounsfield 2011 Budget and Water Districts' EDUs. The Supervisor gave highlights of the 2011 Budget and reported that with this preliminary budget the Town tax rate will remain \$1.28, he added that Water District 2 EDUs remain \$346, Water District 3 EDUs increased \$12 to \$384, Water District 4 EDUs increased \$10 to \$576. The Supervisor also announced the Fire Protection rate is \$.29 which is down one cent.

At this time the Supervisor opened the floor for comments on the 2011 Budget and Water District EDUs. Comments were made on the Constable position, the proposed Highway equipment fund, the proposed salary increases for appointed and some elected positions, and a need for a budget increase for libraries.

The Public Hearing was declared closed at 7:04 PM.

The monthly meeting of the Town of Hounsfield Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Scee immediately following the Public Hearing and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

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

Supervisor Scee received a letter from the State Dept. of Transportation concerning a request for a speed reduction to 45 MPH on a portion of Co. Rt. 62 from the Village of Sackets Harbor limits to NYS Rt. 3. This request was denied. He also received information on independent tower holdings and if any Board members would like to see it they are welcome to do so. A notification was received by the Town Clerk of a workshop for grant writing on records management, scheduled for next month in Watertown.

The Supervisor's Report was given: Total receipts were \$237,838.71, Total disbursements were \$149,098.16, Total in checking accounts was \$390,707.45, and Total investments were \$301,903.13.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Battista to accept 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 Farrington to pay bills in Abstract #11, vouchers #653-697: General Fund A \$12,310.07, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$125.00, Highway Fund A \$17,788.26, Highway Fund B \$37,855.97, Water District 2 \$4,842.35, Water District 1 \$236.14, Water District 4 \$802.23, Water District 3 \$918.76, Wind Power Fund \$1,068.18, Totaling \$75,946.96. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee meeting and EDUs for 2011 were discussed. He also attended budget worksessions.

C'man Cobb reported that he attended the Fire Dept. meeting, and their Fowl Play fundraiser is scheduled for Nov. 19th. They hosted another fund raiser, The Garret Loomis Run, last month and raised about \$4,000.

C'man Lee asked about the loss of the Dexter ambulance and C'man Cobb replied that their ambulance service will stop on January 1, 2011 and Guilfoyle will cover the area.

C'man Battista had no report.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended a Recreation Commission meeting and the by laws were passed. The officers are: Chairperson, Chris Allen; Vice Chairperson, Jeff Kenney; and Secretary, Sandy Farrington. He added that there must have been a misunderstanding on funding for this commission by the Village because they have budgeted \$12,500 and the Town budgeted \$10,000. C'man Farrington also reported that he attended the fall meeting of the Cemetery Association and budget worksessions.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report for October.

The Town Clerk gave a collection report for October.

Unfinished business: Supervisor Scee reported that the Town property on the Storrs road has been surveyed and it does meet the requirements for a building lot.

A motion was made by C'man Cobb and 2nd by C'man Lee to have attorney Renzi prepare an abstract on the vacant Town parcel on the Storrs road to see if the Town can take steps to put it up for sale. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held on a proposed Dog Law, Local Law #1 of 2010, and a motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to hold a public hearing and receive public comment on Local Law #1 of 2010 at 6:50 PM on December 8, 2010. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee announced that the boiler and water heater are on the premises and will be installed this month.

Supervisor Scee reported that a certified letter was sent to Anthony Biggs for the payment of District 2 water tower repairs, which totaled \$1012. Mr. Biggs agreed to a payment plan of \$100 per month and Supervisor Scee added that if one payment is missed the entire balance will be due immediately.

Supervisor Scee reported that he received court documents for settlement of the assessment cases of Harold Cring for Sackets Meadows and Michael Lawler for Blue Heron Landing.

There was discussion of the 2011 Budget and C'man Lee made a motion to increase the budgeted amount for Hay Memorial Library by \$3000 which would come from the contingency fund and the motion was 2nd by Supervisor Scee. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken and C'man Battista voted yes, C'man Farrington voted yes, C'man Lee voted yes, C'man Cobb voted no, and Supervisor Scee voted yes. The motion was carried. After the motion carried C'man Battista changed his vote to no because he didn't think the \$3000 was coming from the contingency fund.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to accept the 2011 Budget with the change just approved for Hay Memorial Library. C'man Cobb read a statement (filed as an attachment to these minutes) of why he voted no, C'man Battista read a statement (filed as an attachment to these minutes) of why he voted no, C'man Farrington explained why he voted yes, C'man Lee explained why he voted yes, and Supervisor Scee explained why he voted yes. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'man Battista for resolution #10-41 to approve the scheduling of a reevaluation of property assessments in the Town of Hounsfield with the Jefferson County Real Property office for the year 2015 or sooner if possible. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time the floor was opened for comment and there were comments on the proposed dog law, the 2011 budget, the difficult intersection at Burton Road and NYS Rt. 3, donated air conditioning units, and an appointed officer of the Joint Recreation Commission.

C'man Cobb asked about the cost of the Water District 3 main line extension because he feels it should be agreed upon by the entire Board. Supervisor Scee replied that the contractor has not contacted him with a price yet.

Supervisor Scee reminded everyone to thank our veterans for serving our contry on November 11th, Veterans Day.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk