

Regular Monthly Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board
Tuesday, December 15, 2008

I. Call to order

Supervisor Art Baer called to order the regular meeting of the **Hillsdale Town Board** at **7:30 pm** on **December 15, 2008**, in the **Hillsdale Town Hall**. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Ann Baldwin, Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, and Augie Sena; Town Clerk Julie Kane, Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs, Tax Collector Joe Hanselman, Town Attorney Dick Alford; newly elected Board member Chris Kersten, one member of the press, and 6 members of the public.

III. Acceptance of minutes

Julie Kane, Town Clerk, submitted the minutes from regular November Town Board meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. Committee Reports

- a) **SEWER COMMITTEE:** Mr. Sena reported that he had received two proposals from licensed operators, one of whom will be retained for six to nine months. After reviewing the two applications with the Board, Mr. Baer recommended Patrick Nolan. On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Carmen,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays

it was resolved to retain Patrick Nolan to provide training, technical assistance and responsible supervision for the Town of Hillsdale Waste Water Treatment Plant and its operator at the rate of \$60 per hour for a period of three months with an option to renew the agreement.

V. Other Business

- a) Mr. Baer joined the other members of the Board in recognizing Ann Baldwin, retiring council member, as someone who had served the Board well for the past eight years and whose balanced input had always been appreciated. After additional comments from the Board, a token of appreciation was presented to Ms. Baldwin and refreshments – provided by Carol Hanselman – were served.
- b) Mr. Baer informed the Board that closing on the 0% sewer bond had been scheduled for December 17th.

VI. Committee Reports (continued)

- a) **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Mr. Cipkowski reported that the insurance company representing the person who drove through the Hamlet Park had indicated that the claim for replacement playground equipment was

too high but that they had not returned with a counter offer. Mr. Alford recommended filing a suit against the insurance company for damages. On a motion by Mr. Cipkowski, seconded by Mr. Sena,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays

It was resolved to authorize Mr. Baer to file a suit for damages.

ROE JAN PARK: Mr. Baer reported that Taconic Hills High School will add an agriculture program to its curriculum and will use several acres of the Park as a teaching farm. He added that the program may begin as soon as spring, 2010.

Mr. Cipkowski reported that the farmhouse roof replacement had been completed on time and on budget.

- b) COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Ms. Baldwin reported that the new Town web site was still in process and that the intention is to go live in January. She also reminded the Board that it was once again time for annual reports and added that Mr. Cipkowski would be responsible for assembling the 2010 report.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: One bid was received for the purchase of a one-ton truck from the Highway Department. (Bid attached.) On a motion by **Mr. Barbato**, seconded by **Ms. Baldwin**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to accept the bid from M R. Parillo of Hagaman, NY, to purchase the truck, as is, where is, for \$317.27.

One bid was received to provide the Highway Department with a chipper. On a motion by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Mr. Sena,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to accept the bid from Vermeer Northeast of Castleton on Hudson, NY, to provide a brush chipper for a net price of \$11,500.

Mr. Briggs reported that the state contract price for a one-ton pickup truck had been reduced approximately \$5,200. On a motion by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to authorize the purchase of a 2010 model one-ton truck under state contract for \$24,562.

- c) BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Mr. Sena reported that the new departmental scanner is in place and that staff is being trained in its use.

VII. Other Business

- a) **LIBRARY UPDATE:** Mr. Baer informed the Board that the *ad hoc* group co-coordinating the purchase of the Library has been reviewing the original modification estimates as the results of the due diligence studies have come in. He continued that the estimate for asbestos remediation is \$10,000 and that the Town is asking the Library Board to do this work before purchase. He added that the Library Board is suggesting that this amount be split 50-50 with the Town and that they are requesting a payment of more than 10% of the purchase price at contract.

Mr. Cipkowski reported that a request for proposals for the necessary building modifications is being prepared with the goal of determining what the costs will be for the absolute minimum work that will be legally required in order for the Town to occupy the building. When that is determined, he added, the Town will know what it can spend on making the new Town Hall the way we want it to be.

- b) **HAMLET SIDEWALK PLAN:** A public hearing on the proposed plan for sidewalks in the Hillsdale Hamlet was scheduled for 4:45 pm on Monday, January 4, 2010.
- c) **SIGNAGE:** Mr. Baer informed the Board that the Town had recently had some issues around signage and that he had discussed the issue with the chairmen of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as with the code and zoning enforcement officers. On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Ms. Baldwin,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to impose a moratorium on the enforcement of provisions in the Comprehensive Plan for existing signage until the Hamlet Plan currently under development is complete.

- d) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bob Kessler, Town representative to the County Environmental Management Council, reported that the EMC had sent a set of recommendations to the County Board which had approved them, and he recommended that the Town Board review the recommendations and adopt them.
- e) **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** On a motion by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board moved into executive session at 9:12 pm to discuss matters leading to the employment history of a particular person.

On a motion by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Mr. Sena,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board moved out of executive session at 10:04 pm.

f) PAY BILLS: On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Ms. Baldwin,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays

It was resolved to pay the Town's bills in the following amounts:

General Fund	Voucher #354 - #382	\$ 18,044.70
Highway Fund	Voucher #284 - #313	\$ 82,361.85
Park Fund	Voucher #52 - #60	\$ 22,710.96
Sewer District	Voucher #34 - #40	\$ 10,255.42

VIII. Adjournment

On a motion of **Mr. Cipkowski**, seconded by **Ms. Baldwin**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays:

Supervisor Baer adjourned the meeting at **10:30 pm.**

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk, to be accepted by the Hillsdale Town Board at the January, 2010, Regular Board Meeting.