

Regular Monthly Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board  
Tuesday, September 20, 2011

**I. Call to order**

**Supervisor Art Baer** called to order the regular meeting of the **Hillsdale Town Board** at **7:30 pm** on **September 20, 2011**, in the **Hillsdale Town Hall**. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Attending**

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, Augie Sena, and Jill Sims-Elster; Town Clerk Julie Kane, Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs, Tax Collector Joe Hanselman; and 3 members of the public.

**III. Committee Reports**

- a) **SEWER COMMITTEE:** Mr. Sena reported that Dan Reed is working well as the backup to engineer Pat Nolan. He continued, stating that there had been an issue with sump water being directed into the sewer system but that the staff is addressing the problem with individual customers. Mr. Baer added that Dan Reed should be used only as a backup for the contract engineer in order to keep expenses down and to allow the Sewer District to repay its intermunicipal loan to the Town. Mr. Sena concluded that he is expecting an estimate of costs from the Town engineers for adding new residences into the system.
- b) **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Ms. Sims-Elster reported the Harvest Festival would be held at the Roe-Jan Park on October 1 and would feature a barbecue to benefit the Roe-Jan Library. She added that repairs to the Harvest Barn roof had been rebid with Mr. Briggs Bauer of Hudson, New York, being the low bidder. On a motion by Ms. Sims-Elster, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

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

the Board resolved to authorize replacing the roof of the Harvest Barn for an amount not to exceed \$19,495.19.

- c) **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** Mr. Cipkowski reported that subscriptions to the Town's electronic newsletter were still increasing and that the next issue would focus on the Grand Opening of the new Town Hall on October 15.
- d) **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent, reported that his department had been busy dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Irene and tropical storm Lee, and that only one Town road had been closed during the storms. Mr. Baer stated that the Town had received a request to privatize Appletree Lane, and Mr. Briggs said that he had no

objection to the idea. Mr. Baer said that he would discuss it with the Town Attorney.

- e) BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Mr. Sena reported that things had been relatively quiet in the department. Mr. Baer informed the Board that he would be meeting with a representative of the Columbia County Sheriff's Department to discuss terms of their lease of the old Town Hall building and that an annual payment to the Town of \$4,000 had been proposed.

#### **IV. Other Business**

- a) NEW TOWN HALL: Mr. Sena reported that the floors had been refinished and that the elevator inspection and heat installation would be done on September 21, with the move to the new building planned for Thursday, September 22.
- b) 2012 BUDGET: Mr. Baer presented the Board with his draft budget and reviewed its salient points. He added that the Town could not continue to draw down funds from its reserves and reminded the Board of the new 2% cap in property tax increases. This cap, he explained, could only be exceeded one time by a 2/3 vote of the Town Board, which decision would have to be reviewed and approved by the State Controller. A budget workshop was scheduled.
- c) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Mr. Baer reminded the Board of the proposal to include the Hamlet Plan in the Town's Comprehensive Plan and said that he hoped the Board would be able to do this in October and to make appropriate changes to the Zoning Ordinances in November.
- d) HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE PAYMENTS: On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

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

the Board resolved to authorize payment of the monthly hospitalization insurance bill upon receipt and prior to approval by the Board.

- e) PAY BILLS: On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Mr. Barbato,

**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 #197 - #225	\$ 21,024.58
Highway Fund	Voucher #166 - #187	\$ 85,928.02
Parks & Rec Fund	Voucher #34 - #35	\$ 330.93
Sewer Fund	Voucher #47 - #51	\$ 3,437.12
Building Fund	Voucher #40	\$ 10,985.73

**V. Adjournment**

On a motion of **Mr. Barbato**, seconded by **Ms. Sims-Elster**,

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

**Supervisor Baer** adjourned the meeting at **9:10 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 October 2011, Regular Board Meeting.*