

TOWN OF HILLSDALE
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2012

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at the Town Hall at 7:00p.m. with the following members present

PRESENT: Supervisor Arthur Baer
Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster
Councilman August Sena
Councilman Peter Cipkowski
Councilman Steven Tiger

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk; Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent; Jose Hanselman, Tax Collector; Deputy Bill Dunsbaugh; Bud Atwood, Julie Kane, Robina Ward, Deborah Bowen, Tom Carty, Howard VanLenten, Laurie Shnayerson, Mary Kane, Jeff Paige, and William Baker

APPROVE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Cipkowski, seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster; the following resolution was

Adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, December 20, 2011.

On motion of Councilman Sena, seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster; the following resolution was

Adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to approve the minutes of the organizational meeting held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, subject to correcting the Attorney's fees.

SEWER

Just a few minor repairs this month. A call-in, the people are flushing too much or what they are flushing (maybe grease) is causing back up. A letter has been sent to the owner. There are 4 or 5 residents, mainly on Cold Water Street who would like to be added to the sewer system.

PARK AND RECREATION

Last month the committee presented a mockup of the new equipment for the hamlet park. It is hoped the Highway Department will remove the old equipment in order to ready the park for the installation of the new equipment scheduled in May.

COMMUNICATIONS

The video of last month's meeting had 251 loads, 111 played and 12 played the whole thing. Peter has compressed the file. The January and February newsletter had 217 hits. Moving forward, Peter wants to change a few things on the web site and tweak it a little more. He will start circulating e-mails asking for reports for the Annual Report. Howard VanLenten stated he was grateful for the intent of the new town seal, but felt the public was not involved and the process was not transparent. Reply from Supervisor Baer....Starting in September, the town seal was discussed at four meetings and the process was transparent. There was lots of opportunity to give input. We wish the Hamlet Committee had gotten involved. The seal has been adopted. Guidelines were taken from the PPS report.

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(Continued)

HIGHWAY

Last week the Highway Superintendent, Councilman Steve Tiger, Carmen Barbato and Joe Regina met at the Highway Garage. Steve got a tour of the facilities.

The Highway Department is working on an inventory. When doing an inventory values are needed, not just good or bad depreciated values. Also parts, nuts and bolts, need to be included.

Richard would like to add to the agreement proposal on stipulations on how repairs are to be paid. Attorney Alford will revise it.

The truck engine has been taken apart. A new engine is being installed with the help of Carmen Barbato.

Jim Chambers will be making a request of the County for Appletree Lane. Perhaps a turn around will need to be expanded. If so the school and town should be consulted as to what they feel is sufficient space and what it will cost. Also the neighbor might want access to Appletree Lane.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Councilman Sena reported the Building Department didn't reach their goal for 2011. Maybe it will improve in 2012.

For this building – the Town Hall – the gutters have been fixed and cleaned. The sump pump drain was fixed. Our goal for this building is to preserve it properly.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Steve Tiger is co-chair of the economic development committee. He would like to get a group of businessmen, not just in the hamlet, but the whole town, to write a three year plan. State funds are available. The County Chamber of Commerce is willing to help. Something that would benefit the whole town if we could get it is broadband.

We have the infrastructure now to do more. The Catamount project is going to happen—sometime. The Rail Trail will be a reality in the next two years.

December Financials – Still have funds to collect. We do not have the final report for the 2011 yet. In general it looks like we will be in good shape. The Highway is slightly over expenditures, but pretty much on budget.

HIGHWAY BIDS

The following sealed bids were received for tree work and materials:

For Tree Work:

DIRUZZIO TREE CO.

Aerial truck w/2 men	\$145/hour
Same as above w/12" chipper	\$155/hour
Additional men	\$17.50/hr per man

For Crushed Stone, Gravel, Asphalt:

A. COLARUSSO & SON, INC. prices attached

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(Highway Bids, continued)

The Board recommended rebidding the tree work.

On motion of Councilman Cipkowski, seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster; the following resolution was

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to accept the A. Colarusso & Son bid for crushed stone, gravel and asphalt for the year of 2012.

The Town Clerk was instructed to advertise for a maintenance person and a town historian. Howard VanLenten requested a job description.

Martin Roba, resident of Stuyvesant, inquired about filing a complaint on county ethics concerning his supervisor.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

On motion of Councilman Tiger, seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster; the following resolution was

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to appoint Lexis Lally Chairman of the Preservation Committee, and appoint Michael Dvorchak Chairman of the Hamlet Committee.

CREATING POSITION OF DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Creating the position of Deputy Town Clerk was discussed.

On motion of Councilman Sena, seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster; the following resolution was

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to hire a part-time Deputy Town Clerk for a maximum of 600 hours per year on a flexible as needed basis not to exceed \$9,000.

PAY BILLS

On motion of Councilman Chikowski, seconded by Councilman Sena; the following resolution was

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to pay the bills in the following amounts:

13 th Abstract		
General Fund	Voucher #321 – 326	\$ 9,670.33
Sewer Fund	Voucher #325	\$ 1,861.02
January 2012 Abstract		
General Fund	Voucher #1 – 33	\$14,421.55
Highway Fund	Voucher #1 – 21	\$31,427.91
Park Fund	Voucher #25	\$ 2,000.00
Sewer Fund	Voucher #1,11,12,31	\$ 1,579.45

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(continued)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk