

TOWN OF HILLSDALE
REGULAR MEETING
February 19, 2013

DRAFT

Pledge to flag

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, at the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:01p.m. by Supervisor Baer

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk; Robina Ward; Jeff Paige; Joe Hanselman, Tax Collector; Ken Main, Berkshire Valley Dairy, LLC; and reporter John Mason

APPROVE MINUTES

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

Adopted - vote - ayes 3 nays 0

Resolved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 as amended- (Carmen Barbato is on the Highway Committee)

SEWER

Councilman Sena reported The Hanselman-Sullivan billing problem has been resolved. The electric charges will go back to the original house. That house is now under demolition and repair to someday be a beautiful building containing a business and apartment.

O's Country Diner, after being totally renovated, opened February 7th. He was in and paid his sewer bill.

The yearend report showed the Sewer had a positive net income of \$5674.38. The monitoring system was restructured which helped.

PARK AND RECREATION

Jill reported the Roe Jan Park's luncheon is planned for May 5th. The major part of the money will go to the Hamlet Park to finish the equipment phase. The Roe Jan Park has no major projects planned.

Bids for rental of the park property

One bid was received from Berkshire Valley Dairy, LLC –

#1	78+-acres on the east side of Rt.22 @\$45	\$3510.00
#2	43+-acres on the west side of Rt.22@\$55	\$2365.00
	TOTAL	\$5875.00

On motion of Councilperson Jill, seconded by Councilman Peter; the following resolution was **adopted – vote - ayes 5 nays 0**

Resolved to accept the bid of Berkshire Valley Dairy, LLC for a total of \$5875.00.

The organic area lease is for 5 years, with the option to renew. The Park is still communicating with the present leasee.

DRAFT

Regular Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board, February 19, 2013
(Continued)

COMMUNICATIONS

January and February newsletter had 298 opens, 60% open rate, which is our highest so far, click rate was 47%. The newsletter has 514 active subscribers.

The top three clicks were 38% year end pictures, 25% tax information and service links that include, local business listings, libraries and schools.

Annual reports are due---some have been received. Will it be necessary to put each report in a collated document to distribute?.....maybe just a few for the Town Hall.

The March and April newsletter will have department summaries that will become part of their web page.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Richard and Carmen had a meeting. The price of the truck body might change in March.

The Taconic Hills Central School District and the Towns of Copake, Ancram and Hillsdale (referred to as "Taconic Hills Municipal Facilities Collaborative") are seeking to reduce overall operational costs by purchasing and sharing essential facilities maintenance equipment. The New York State Local Efficiency grant program 2013 presents an opportunity to receive fiscal assistance for implementing programs that reduce overall governmental costs by sharing services and resources. Operating under the jointly approved inter-municipal improvement agreement, the Taconic Hills Municipal Facilities Collaborative desires to jointly purchase and operate a new sweeper/vacuum vehicle by applying for grant money through the Grant program above. Each town will commit \$5,000 as the required 10% local share.

Resolution #6 for sharing equipment with other municipalities was passed at the Organizational meeting on January 3, 2013.

On motion of Councilman Tiger, seconded by Councilman Sena; the following resolution was **Adopted Vote ayes 5 nays 0**

Resolved to authorize the Supervisor to write a letter supporting the application for the Local Government Efficiency Grant Program of 2013 by the Taconic Hills School District and the Towns of Ancram, Copake and Hillsdale.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Victor is still working with the outside lights to get them to work properly.

Joe Iuviene, Architectural Bureau, is preparing bid documents for the Town Hall slate roof, redo the chimney, bricks and parapets. It is expected that the bidding will be done in March.

The Building Department is relatively quiet. A hazardous property on Rockledge Road has been taken care of. Lee has talked with the owner, and the electric has been disconnected.

With the Sheriff Sub Station in town, Hillsdale seems to have better coverage. Fines and forfeitures are down for most of the County. Hillsdale is 17% over budget for the year.

The Deputies will be stopping at businesses in town to introduce themselves.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE/Hillsdale Business Alliance

The brochure is in the final stages. Close to 70 businesses are listed so far.

On March 10th at 10:30am a meeting is scheduled to kick off the planning process for the town. There will be twelve people to work on it. Steve and Tom will lead the teams and help set achievable goals. Team 1 will help improve existing business. Team 2 will work to bring in new businesses.

The County is willing to help develop this also.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

On motion of Councilman Cipkowski, seconded by Councilperson Jill the following resolution was **Adopted Vote ayes 5 nays 0**

Resolved to approve the budget amendments as presented.

An external, independent audit is underway.

Comments from the Public

Jeff Paige would like the Board to reconsider the meeting time. He would like it changed back to 7:30 p.m.. It is too hard for him to make 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Cipkowski, seconded by Councilperson Jill; the following resolution was **adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0**

Resolved that is Board move into executive session to discuss negotiations

Time: 7:50pm

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Sena, seconded by Councilman Tiger; the following resolution was **adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0**

Resolved that this Board move out of executive session and return to the regular meeting.

Time: 8:24 pm

PAY BILLS

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

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to pay the bills in the following amounts:

January 2013

General Fund	Voucher #17- 44	\$40,601.87
Highway Fund	Voucher # 1-34	\$70,923.45
RJPark Fund	Voucher #RJP2-3	\$ 917.77
Sewer Fund	Voucher #SS5-SS8	\$ 1,186.00
Street Lights	Voucher #SL2	\$ 831.83

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk