

TOWN OF HILLSDALE
REGULAR MEETING
January 21, 2014

Pledge to flag

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the Town Hall at 7:02p.m. with the following members present

PRESENT: Supervisor Arthur Baer
Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster
Councilman August Sena
Councilman Steven Tiger
Councilman Carmen Barbato

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk, Peter Cipkowski, Jeff Paige, Joe Hanselman, Tax Collector, Frank Velez, Julie Kane, Robina Ward, and our resident deputy David Proper

APPROVE MINUTES

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

Adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to accept the minutes of the organizational meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2014 as adjusted. (First page changed a typo t to an a)

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

Adopted – vote – ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 as presented.

SEWER

Craig Norton is asking for credit from a meeting held August 21, 2012. He feels he has been overcharged and is looking for a refund of \$1,946.40. Maybe we could give him a credit instead. Augie will research it and come back to the Board with what the credit should be.

PARK AND RECREATION

There was no meeting this past month.

The Roe Jan letter is out.

Next month the committee will be doing a campaign as it is very quiet and more people are needed.

COMMUNICATIONS

The January/February Newsletter had 375 opens and a 63% open through rate.

The sidewalk grant the town received had 359 opens and a 41% check through rate.

The next newsletter comes out in March.

The sidewalk announcement was carried quite broadly and has brought attention to the Town.

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SIDEWALK GRANT

Hillsdale was awarded a grant of \$754,975 for sidewalks and crosswalks in the hamlet. This grant has to be used within five years.

The State will inform us of the next steps going forward. Augie will work as clerk of the works and Joe Regina will be working with Augie.

Erin, from Clark Engineering, Augie, Joe, and Art will meet tomorrow. In the next week we will receive a letter saying we will get the money. Then in the following two weeks we will hear from the local DOT. The State will work with us each step of the way.

It was difficult and time consuming to write the grant.

We will be taking out a long term Bond Anticipation Note to pay our portion of the sidewalks.

The sidewalks will be on the north and south sides of Route 23. They will run from the Town Hall to the Aubergine (traffic light) on the north and the Sub Station to the Town Hall on the south.

Councilman Barbato questioned why we aren't doing anything in the village – Cold Water Street and /or Anthony Street. This money can only be used on State DOT roads. There is a line item in the Budget titled sidewalks--However no money has been budgeted in that account in five years.

Why are our sidewalks not maintained and our laws not enforced?

In 1992, the Board passed Local Law #2 – Care and Maintenance of sidewalks

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

At the end of the year the Building Inspector was \$15,000 above what was budgeted.

Victor has opened up the wall at the bottom of the stairs to see where the dampness is coming from. Now that it is open, we need to figure out how to fix it.

THANK YOU PETER CIPKOWSKI

The Board has enjoyed working with Peter and thanked him for the great job he has done and continues to do with the newsletter and the web site. He will be missed.

Ask everyone what is new in town and less than one third of the people would know.

Do we want to send a letter to every property owner? Councilman Tiger suggested we wait to see what happens.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Councilman Barbato, Chairman of the Highway committee, reported that another truck broke down a couple days ago. Now 2 trucks are inoperative. The majority felt buying a sander was the way to go. A sander for a small truck was ordered the next day.

The next day Supervisor Baer called the insurance company who agreed to pay to rent a truck. Trucks and sanders are rusted out. Why don't we spend money on equipment.

The Supervisor replied that Richard has not used the money given to him by the Board.. If he has excess money he could put that in a fund---encumbrance money in the budget to replace equipment from the repair account. Discussion followed.

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Art suggested to Carmen that he talk to Ancram, Galletin, and Burnie Kelleher---they are working with trucks from 1980. Over the past four years the Federal Government has given the Town \$800,000 in FEMA funds. Where has that money gone?
Carmen will get the questions answered at the next committee meeting and come back to the Board.

NEW RESIDENT DEPUTY

Deputy Sheriff David Proper was welcomed to the meeting. He will be our resident deputy for this year

Town Hall Restoration

The contractor needs four days of good weather when it doesn't freeze or snow or rain.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Starting at 6 pm prior to the next Board meeting (February 18, 2014) the team findings of the Economic Development Committee will be presented. It should be an interesting presentation.

BUSINESS ALLIANCE

This committee will be meeting Thursday at 10:00...

As there are many committees, boards that meet, it was suggested that the organizer of the meeting fill out an application to request using the Town Hall. Steve will create a form and master calendar.

HIGHWAY BIDS

The following sealed bids received for highway materials and a tree contractor were opened at the Town Board regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 21st.

One bid for Crushed Stone – Sand & Gravel - Blacktop
A.Colarusso & Son, Inc

One bid for Tree Contractor
DiRuzzio Tree Co.

The on motion of Councilman Barbato, seconded by Councilman Sena, the following resolution was

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Whereas solicitation for bids were publicly advertised in the Hudson Register Star on January 16,17, and 18 and both bids were received in a timely manor.
There being no other bids, the Board approved/accepted both Colarusso for Crushed Stone – Sand&Gravel - Blacktop and DiRuzzio Tree Co..

Public Comment

Julie Kane inquired if Hillsdale or the County participates in PERT. Deputy Proper will investigate and suggested Julie call Bill Black.

Yes we have an emergency management plan. We also have a County Red Alert program.

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PAY BILLS

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

Adopted vote ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to pay the bills in the following amounts:

For the year 2013		
General Fund	Voucher #278– 283	\$4,446.70 & \$911.04
Highway Fund	Voucher #253 – 271	\$33,335.07
RJPark Fund	Voucher #RJP-RJP	
Sewer Fund	Voucher #SS-SS	
Street Lights	Voucher #SL	
For the year 2014		
General Fund	Voucher #2– 23	\$107,866.40
Highway Fund	Voucher #1 – 9	\$ 15,923.84
RJPark Fund	Voucher #RJP1-RJP	\$ 17.60
Sewer Fund	Voucher #SS1-SS5	\$ 1,103.40
Street Lights	Voucher #SL1	\$ 807.73

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk