



**TOWN OF HILLSDALE  
BOARD MEETING  
November 17, 2015**

This Town Board meeting, called to order at 7:01pm with the following members present:

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bill Demma Town Clerk, Peter Cipkowski, Robina Ward, Jeff Paige, Tom Carty, and Lorna Littleway of the Columbia Paper.

**Resolution #58: APPROVE MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilman Tiger seconded by Councilman Sena to accept the October 20, 2015 minutes as amended.

**Adopted    Vote    ayes 5    nay 0**

**Resolved** to accept the minutes as amended for the Town of Hillsdale Board meeting held on Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

**SEWER**

Councilman Sena reported that there were no new updates for the Sewer District and that the work had not yet started on the pump installation; the pump is intended to prevent winter pipeline freezing.

**PARKS**

As reported in October, Hillsdale had been chosen by the National Weather Service as a site for the early warning system equipment. Nine sites in Roe Jan Park had been chosen as possible sites, and the process of selecting one of the sites for installation had begun. Councilperson Sims-Elster reported that none of the three sites being looked at currently interrupted any Park activities, and that she would request that a ranger from Copake Falls make a Power Point presentation at the December 2015 meeting displaying the early warning system facility. Interested parties can now research the specs at [www.nysmesonet.org](http://www.nysmesonet.org).

The ultra-violet filtration system at the Sub-Station had failed; it had initially been installed because of the Summer Youth program as required by law. Because this particular filtration system is no longer needed, the ultra violet system will be by-passed.

The Hillsdale Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held December 5 at 4:30 starting at the firehouse. Events will include a hayride and a tree lighting of the tree of lights by Santa.

Regular Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board, November 17, 2015 (cont.)

The HBA will be promoting 'Shop Small Saturday,' a 4 year old tradition encouraging shoppers to shop locally. The first Saturday for 2015 will be November 28, and will be promoted with a sandwich board sign in Monument Park. Shop Small Saturday will happen every Saturday through Christmas.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilman Tiger had no numbers available for openings on the newsletter at this meeting. However follow up information is that there had been 424 opens on the newsletter for a 59% open rate, and 185 clicks for a 44% rate, with the strongest interest in the old 1851 and 1858 maps.

#### **HIGHWAY**

In the absence of Superintendent Briggs, Councilman Barbato reported that the Highway Department was gearing up the snow equipment.

#### **BUILDINGS**

Reporting on the continuing work on Town Hall, Councilman Sena reported that Victor Amendola has been working on the back stairwell, moving three beams that had been clocking the view out the rear windows. Work on insulating the staircase is ongoing.

It was anticipated that the new cement sidewalk to the front door of Town Hall would be completed this week.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **SIDEWALKS**

The Town had been visited by a DOT representative to review the repairs that will be necessary for drainage along the area of the sidewalk project on Route 23. All drainage issues were identified, and DOT committed to covering the expense of repair and replacement to the drainage system. DOT plans to coordinate its work with the work on the sidewalk project. The new street drains will be 'curve boxes' that have a slight slant allowing for faster water drainage and less blockage buildup. DOT will now be performing its review of the Town's final submission for the job in time for it to be bid out in the spring.

Because Route 23 had been considered a 'turnpike,' the right of way is wider than the actual, current street bed, eliminating some of the right of way issues. The downside may be that some of the local business signage may be on the State's right of way; this situation is being researched. The Town continues to anticipate completion of the sidewalk project in 2016.

##### **TOWN PLUMBER**

Supervisor Baer reminded those in attendance that the Town plumber is Chris Quinby.

##### **COUNTY**

Supervisor Baer reported that the counting of the absentee ballots would be underway to determine the winners of the Supervisor races in Greenport and Chatham, and the Mayor of Hudson. He is not expecting an increase in County taxes.

Regular Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board, November 17, 2015 (cont.)

**ZONING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Mary Ann Foote is currently standing for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, but the Town is not sure if she will accept reappointment. There is also an opening on the Hillsdale Zoning Board due to the resignation of Howard Van Lenten. Supervisor Baer explained the imperative to fill the possible opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals; without a quorum on this Board, the review process would fall to the County, creating many difficulties. He expressed a strong need to run the ad for Zoning personnel again.

**HAMLET AND GREEN SOLUTIONS COMMITTEES; ALLOCATION OF TRAINING DOLLARS**

Following the resignation of Mike Dvorchack as Chair of the Hamlet Committee, the Committee requested that Bart Ziegler be appointed as the new Chair.

**Resolution #59: TO APPOINT BART ZIEGLER AND BOB KESSLER AS CHAIRS OF THE HAMLET AND GREEN SOLUTIONS COMMITTEES RESPECTIVELY.**

On a motion by Councilman Tiger seconded by Councilperson Sims-Elster:

**Adopted Vote ayes 5 nay 0**

**Resolved** to appoint Bart Ziegler as Chair of the Hamlet Committee and Bob Kessler as Chair of the Green Solutions Committee.

**Resolution #60: TO AUTHORIZE A \$200 PER PERSON FEE PAYMENT FOR TRAINING FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS.**

On a motion by Councilperson Sims-Elster seconded by Councilman Sena:

**Adopted Vote ayes 5 nay 0**

**Resolved** to allocate \$200 per newly elected officials, Peter Cipkowski, Robina Ward, and Kathi Doolan for training with the Association of Towns.

**BLUE CROSS PREMIUM**

Supervisor Baer noted that the new premium for the one person on the Blue Cross insurance plan had come in; the premium amount is not yet known.

**PAY BILLS**

**Resolution #61:** On motion of Councilman Sena and a second by Councilperson Sims-Elster,

**Adopted Vote ayes 5 nays 0**

**Resolved** to pay the bills in the following amounts:

For the November 17, 2015 meeting

General Fund	Vouchers #435-479	\$ 12,987.62
Highway Fund	Vouchers #242-262	\$ 43,673.06
Parks & Rec	Vouchers #	\$ -0-
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #73-77	\$ 1,803.20
Street Lights	Voucher #12	\$ 619.10

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted

William Demma, Town Clerk

**Resolutions: November 17, 2015**

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| 58 | 11/17/2015 | Resolution to accept October 20, 2015 Board minutes as amended   |
| 59 | 11/17/2015 | Resolution to appoint Bart Ziegler as Chair of the Hamlet Committee and Bob Kessler as Chair of the Green Solutions Committee                                |
| 60 | 11/17/2015 | Resolution to spend \$200 per person for newly elected officials, Peter Cipkowski, Robina Ward, and Kathi Doolan for training with the Association of Towns. |
| 61 | 11/17/2015 | Resolution to pay bills  |