

**TOWN OF HILLSDALE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2016**

The meeting began at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Supervisor, Peter Cipkowski.

PRESENT: Supervisor Peter Cipkowski
Councilperson Carmen Barbato
Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster
Councilperson Steven Tiger
Councilperson Robina Ward

OTHERS PRESENT: 25 members of the Public

APPROVE MINUTES: December minutes not available. Approval scheduled for next Board meeting.

Announcements/Correspondence:

The Columbia County Office for the Aging is looking for two members to participate on the Board. They would attend six meetings beginning the 3rd Friday of April and the 3rd Friday of each month moving forward. Two people need to be appointed by the end of the month. Nominate a "Columbia County Citizen of the Year 2016". Forms are located downstairs in the Town Hall.

Public Comments:

Bud Atwood congratulated the new Board and said "we are off to a good start".

Town Supervisor Cipkowski has been assigned to the Hillside Economic Development Committee and asked to be on the County Government Committee with the Columbia County Tourist Office.

Town Supervisor Cipkowski, Councilperson Ward and Town Clerk Doolan scheduled for "newly elected town officials" training in Albany January 13, 14 and 15.

A discussion about the Fire District was added to the agenda by Town Supervisor Cipkowski. Fire Superintendent Hanselman announced The Hillside-Copake Fire District has five new volunteer members taking the "Fire Fighter #1" course to become an interior firefighter. These volunteers are attending the class for 26 weeks, 2 nights a week, 4 hours a night while also holding a full time job and family. Congratulations and thanks to Ben Damgaard, Dan Gladden, Ricky Miles, Seth Silvernail, Harley Edwards. They will graduate February 3.

Fire Superintendent Hanselman also announced that on December 8, under public Referendum, approval was granted for the purchase of a new pumper/tanker truck for the Fire Department at no additional expense to the tax payers.

Supervisor Cipkowski has added the names of the new volunteer fire fighters to the town's website along with a page for each new committee.

Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster reported on the Economic Development Committee saying by-laws were adopted at the Hillsdale Business Alliance meeting and they will be doing co-op advertising and a variety of events. The Summer Youth Program is posted on the website but no programs are planned at this time.

Councilperson and Chair of the Human Resources committee, Steve Tiger reported that he presented a workshop on "violence prevention in the workplace" with the Highway Department. This workshop is to be presented every year with every Town employee.

Councilperson and Chair of Infrastructure/Public Works Robina Ward announced that she met with Victor Amendola, the Town Hall's maintenance person to assess what needs to be done to maintain the building.

Appointment to the vacant position on the Board of Review

On a motion to appoint Augie Senna by Councilperson Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Ward

Adopted Vote Ayes – 5 Nays - 0

Five resolutions were unanimously approved:

8 Code-Enforcement Inter-Municipal agreement with Canaan and Austerlitz: Resolved, the Town of Hillsdale, Canaan and Austerlitz have entered into an agreement to share a Code Enforcement Officer (CEO, ZEO, Building Inspector) and all associated contractual costs of such function weighted by the number of parcels in each Town. Be it further resolved that Hillsdale's annual cost of this agreement in 2016 is \$1,012.

On a motion by Councilperson Sims-Elster and seconded by Councilperson Ward,

Adopted Vote Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

9 Appointment of an Insurance Provider: Resolved, that NYMIR (New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal) is hereby appointed to provide the Town's insurance coverage for structures, vehicles, equipment, general liability and theft in 2016 at a premium of \$33,187.78.

On a motion by Councilperson Sims-Elster, and seconded by Councilperson Ward

Adopted Vote Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

#10 Budget Amendment 1/General Fund: Resolved, the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to make the year-end adjustments in the 2015 General Fund budget.

On a motion by Councilperson Robina Ward, and seconded by Councilperson Tiger.

Adopted Vote Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

#11 Budget Amendment 2/Highway: Resolved, the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to make the year-end adjustments in the 2015 Highway budget.

On a motion by Councilperson Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Ward

Adopted Vote Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

#12 Budget Amendment 3/Sewer: Resolved, the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to make the year-end adjustments in the 2015 Sewer budget.

On a motion by Steve Tiger, Councilperson and seconded by Robina Ward, Councilperson

Adopted Ayes - 5 Nays – 0

Discussion on Open Bids.

A bid was received regarding tree work from Dinuzzio Tree Co. A bid was received from A. Colarusso & Sons regarding sand and gravel. Both discussions to be tabled until a meeting is set with Richard Briggs, Superintendent of the Highway Dept.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Steve Tiger, Councilperson and seconded by Jill Sims-Elster, Councilperson. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi Doolan
Town Clerk