

**TOWN OF HILLSDALE  
BOARD MEETING  
August 9, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Peter Cipkowski  
Councilperson Carmen Barbato  
Councilperson Steven Tiger  
Councilperson Robina Ward

**MISSING:** Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kathi Doolan, Town Clerk; Dick Hermans, Richard Briggs, Joe Hanselman Jr., Tom Carty, Jeff Paige, Bud Atwood, Steve Smith, Gretchen Stevens, Lorna Littleway, reporter for the Columbia Paper and four other members of the public.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Supervisor Peter Cipkowski.

**Approve Minutes**

On motion of Councilperson Steve Tiger, seconded by Councilperson Robina Ward, the following resolution was

**Adopted Vote - Ayes 5 Nays 0**

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 with two revisions.

**Announcements/Correspondence**

Supervisor Cipkowski announced he had a meeting with Governor Cuomo's office regarding Broadband. Columbia County has been identified as one of the top 10 counties to have greater Broadband by 2017.

Events: ArtsWalk, August 27, followed by Grillsdale beginning at 6:00 pm. Hazardous Waste Day in Greenport, September 2 and the Old Tone Music Festival, September 8 – 12 at Cool Whisper Farm.

Supervisor Cipkowski introduced Dick Hermans, President of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail who gave an update on the construction of the Trail with hopes of beginning work either this Fall or early Spring.

**Public Comments:**

Julie Kane opened discussion about the proposed Pumpkin Festival, October 22 on behalf of the Hamlet Committee. This would be co-sponsored by the Hillsdale Business Association.

**Highway Superintendent** Richard Briggs reported the month had been spent blacktopping roads and will be using oil and stone on roads between Harlemville Road and West End Road. Oil and stone is much less expensive than paving.

**Fire Department** – Supervisor Cipkowski commented on speaking with Chiefs of other town’s Fire Departments about the challenges facing the Volunteer Fire Service that serves Columbia County. They are looking to see whether there is State guidance and support on recruiting volunteers. The education mandates and state mandates are a big commitment. Hillsdale currently has a very strong volunteer group.

**Committee Reports:**

**Infrastructure** – Councilperson Ward announced the work on the annex is almost finished. Victor Amendola is working on the house in the Roe Jan Park and will put out bids for painting and other prep work in the fall.

**CAC** – Gretchen Stevens reported that Guy Winig has resigned from the committee. Suzanne Werner, former CAC member who moved to London is back and would like to take his place. She asked the Town Board to reappoint Suzanne.

On a motion vote by Steve Tiger and seconded by Robina Ward to reappoint Suzanne Werner to the CAC:

**Motion Vote** Ayes – 4 Nays – 0 1 Absent

**Historic Hillsdale** - Supervisor Cipkowski reported that the committee has begun to catalogue the area’s cemeteries.

**Housing** committee is applying for a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation to encourage public participation in the challenges and benefits of affordable housing. Tom Carty reported that the last study was done in Westchester in 2010 and the committee is asking for a grant to update the study.

**Old Business**

Sidewalks. Cipkowski reached out to Congresspersons Gibson and Marchione for additional support with the DOT which they offered.

2017 Budget Planning. There will be a Public Hearing to present the preliminary meeting and then the final budget for the December meeting.

**Moratorium on Solar development.** There will be a Public Hearing at 6:45 September 13 prior to the Town Board meeting to review a possible town law that will place a six-month moratorium on large-scale solar development. Councilperson Tiger made a point of saying the town is not against solar, it just wants it done correctly. Gretchen Stevens asked whether the solar moratorium effects residential properties and that was answered “no” by Supervisor Cipkowski.

A discussion was started by Supervisor Cipkowksi regarding signs on the monuments in town, the Veterans Memorial and Cullin Square.

**Resolution: prohibit signs of any kind on the Town Memorial sights.**

On a motion by Councilperson Barbato and seconded by Councilperson Tiger

**Adopted Vote** – Ayes - 4 Naves - 0 Absent - 1

**Motion to accept 2016 budget amendment**

On a motion presented by Councilperson Tiger to accept the budget amendment and seconded by Councilperson Ward

**Motion**

**Vote:** Ayes – 4 Naves - 0 Absent - 1

**Resolution Pay Bills**

On a motion by Councilperson Tiger and seconded by Councilperson to pay the bills as presented:

General Fund	Voucher # 924 – 961	\$ 23,190.95
Highway Fund	Voucher # 454 – 473	159,505.30
Parks & Recreation Fund	Voucher # 149 – 153	1,260.31
Sewer District Fund	Voucher # 122 – 126	2,472.81

**Adopted Vote** Ayes - 4 Naves – 0 Absent – 1

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Doolan  
Town Clerk