Regular Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board, Tuesday, August 21, 2007

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held at the Town Hall on Route 23 at 7:37 p.m. with the following members present

PRESENT: Supervisor Arthur Baer
Councilwoman Ann Baldwin
Councilman Carmen Barbato
Councilman August Sena
Councilman Peter Cipkowski

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Dodds, Town Clerk; Richard Roth, Independent Reporter; Julie Kane, Ira Halfond, Pat and Gene Hallenback, Jose Calle, Robina Ward, Mike Simon, John Farrell, Martin Silvan, Jeannie Scott, Patti Proper, Betsy Arnholter, and Kevin Thiemann.

Resolution #83

APPROVE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Barbato, seconded by Councilwoman Baldwin; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved that the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 17, 2007 and the minutes of the special meeting held on August 9, 2007 be approved as presented.

SEWER

The bids on contracts #1 and #2 are approved and we are ready to break ground. However, there is an issue concerning the language in the Rural Development Bond. This is taking longer than expected.
Contracts #3 and #4 are out and will be opened September 20th at 1:00 p.m.
Councilman Sena will be meeting the early part of next week with Housing Resources. People are afraid to complete their form because of the personal nature of the questions. We will suggest the form be modified so the paperwork can be completed. This will not hold up progress as this is back up paperwork only.
A few residents in the sewer district have volunteered to help keep those in the district informed once construction starts.

PARK & RECREATION

Councilman Cipkowski reported the committee is waiting to hear from the State about the historical survey grant.
The Summer Youth Program ended last Friday.
The Committee is in the process of deciding how to use donations to the beautification of the town.
The State has completed the acquisition of the new park. An agreement between the Town and State is being drafted. When this agreement is finalized, the Town will receive the rental (house and agricultural) income. A Park Commission of under 10 people will be appointed. We have more than enough volunteers to serve. This commission will work on a survey of the Community and ideas of how to develop the new park. The State is hoping to have funding to provide the engineer to help develop the park. The State wants comments from the Town and approval of the Community.

COMMUNICATIONS
Because the Community Day Committee put out a newsletter/paper, the Communications Committee will wait do a newsletter until the fall.
The web site is coming along nicely. July averaged 1100 hits, August about 1000.

HIGHWAY
Councilman Barbato reported the Highway Department has completed repairing the storm damage caused by the April 15th storm. They are stoning Ox Bow Road now. Hillsdale did the best of any town in the county completing FEMA paperwork and getting the money. Hillsdale will receive $470,000--- $30,000 to $40,000 of which are mitigation funds.
Thanks to the Highway Department, Richard and others that got the work done.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
The committee included the Chairman of the Planning Board, Hank Henward, in their meeting with the Building Department. The committee left ideas with the Building Department. The Department will come back with their ideas next month. Hank has issues with the enforcement. It seems hard to get efficiency. The committee is working on that, how best to use those in the department, and the issue of getting the paperwork done.

Resolution #84
Hire Building Department Clerk
On motion of Councilwoman Baldwin, seconded by Councilman Barbato; the following resolution was

adopted	**-**	**vote**	**-**	**Supervisor Baer**	**abstain**
				Councilwoman Baldwin	**yes**
				Councilman Barbatoyes	
				Councilman Sena	**yes**
				Councilman Cipkowski	**yes**

Resolved to hire Theresa Kisselbrack as Building Department Clerk, effective immediately;
Further Resolved that the clerk will work 8 hours per week (Tuesday & Thursday, noon to 4p.m.) at $15 per hour.

It was suggested that perhaps some job descriptions should be written.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT GRANT
The Court is applying for a grant for computer equipment, scanner, software, telephone, credit card machine and other goods in the amount of $4,852.97. They need a resolution authorizing the application.

Resolution #85
Authorizing Justice Department Grant Application
On motion of Supervisor Baer, seconded by Councilman Barbato; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays **0**

Resolved to authorize the Justice Department to apply for the 2007 Justice Court Assistance Program to assist in the operation of the Hillsdale Town Court.

RESCUE SQUAD
Jeannie Scott and Kevin Thiemann presented the Board with their yearly report and discussed the Squad's annual budget shortfall. They requested the Board consider an increase in the amount the town budgets for the Rescue Squad next year.

Info - the county had a presentation on a Municipal Tower Ownership Program. If a municipality has land, JNS Enterprises might be interested in erecting a cell tower and splitting the income with the town. Councilman Sena will investigate.

Michael Simon, Schmeichel Road - Mr. Simon is concerned about a building on County Route 21 that is owned by Joseph Gellert. He is sure is does not meet State codes and has to come down. The Building Inspector will be contacted to make sure the Town has done all they can.

Jose Calle, State Route 23 - He was here four years ago and nothing has happened. We should get serious about enforcing the speed limit through the hamlet. It needs to be enforced. Speed and noise go hand in hand—it reduces the quality of life. It is not safe or healthy. The speed signs are stupid. Also the sidewalks are a mess—not kept up - shoveled or swept.
We have walked the hamlet with State DOT, which resulted in changing some signs. That is all the State thought necessary. The State Police and Sheriffs Department have increased patrols in the area.

Resolution #86
APPOINT ASSESSOR
On motion of Councilman Barbato, seconded by Councilman Ciplowski; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to appoint Pamela Cook as Town of Hillsdale Assessor for a six year term beginning October 1, 2007 and ending September 30, 2013.

Comprehensive Plan
Our attorney is researching a logging law He has looked into comparable laws to use as a basis, but find they are much different than our intent. Therefore, he does not have a law yet.

Resolution #87
EXECUTIVE SESSION
On motion of Supervisor Baer, seconded by Councilman Cipkowski; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved that this Board move into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel.
Time 9:17 p.m.

Resolution #88
CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION
On motion of Councilman Barbato, seconded by Councilwoman Baldwin; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved that executive session be closed and this Board return to the regular meeting.
Time 9:55 p.m.

Resolution #89
APPOINT PARK STEERING COMMITTEE
On motion of Councilwoman Baldwin, seconded by Councilman Sena; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to appoint the following people to the new Park Steering Committee:
Peter Cipkowski, Arthur Baer, Ed Herrington, Caroline Stewart, Jill Elster-Sims, Doug Clark, Judy Anderson, and John Farrell;
And Further Resolved that Copake will appoint one member.

Resolution #90
PAY BILLS
On motion of Councilwoman Baldwin, seconded by Councilman Sena; the following resolution was

adopted - vote - ayes 5 nays 0

Resolved to pay the bills in the following amounts:

General Fund	Voucher #191 - #221	$12,403.17
Highway Fund	Voucher #146 - #164	$65,522.05

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ Ruth Dodds, RMC, Town Clerk