

DRAFT

**TOWN OF HILLSDALE
BOARD MEETING
March 21, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 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
Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Cabrall, Attorney; Kathi Doolan, Town Clerk; Joe Hanselman, Jr., Tax Collector; Richard Briggs, Lorna Littleway, Columbia Paper, Steve Smith, Tom Carty, Howard Van Lenten, Jeff Paige,

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

Approve Minutes

On motion of Councilperson Carmen Barbato, seconded by Steve Tiger, the following resolution was

Adopted Vote - Ayes- 5 Nays –

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Town Board meeting held on February 14, 2017.

Supervisor Cipkowski reviewed Local Law #1: Extend the moratorium on certain solar energy installations in the Town of Hillsdale for three months.

On a motion by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster and seconded by Councilperson Steve Tiger to accept Local Law #1

Motion Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Announcements/Correspondence:

Supervisor Cipkowski received confirmation that the DOT is investigating the speed limit reductions the Town requested on State Route 22; the request for speed-limit reductions on County Route 21 is being investigated by the County.

The DOT has given the Town the “Notice to Permittee”, approving the application for the Sidewalk project to begin. There will be a pre-construction meeting Monday April 3 at 10:00 am. The public is invited to attend. The schedule for actual construction will be determined. Councilperson Tiger suggested an informational meeting be scheduled following the pre-construction meeting for residents to discuss the plan.

Discussion about timing. Projected time frame 8 – 12 weeks.

The Columbia County Summer Youth Employment program is open. Interested parties, age 18 or over should contact the Supervisor.

Whippoorwill Road. The Town attorney, Dick Alford, has drafted a request form to be circulated and signed by residents of Whippoorwill Road, Wolf Hill, Pumpkin Hill and Sir William Road. The signed form will allow the town to petition the NYSDOT to modify access onto Route 22. Jeff Paige asked if the Town had contacted the owner of the house at the access point. The response was no.

No other public comments.

Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent, reported his team was on the road for 18 hours working to make the roads travelable during the recent snow storm. Discussion about the need to educate the public about the town’s “snow policy” during a storm. The heights of mailboxes, garbage cans left in the street, cars parked in the middle of the street can cause potential dangers said Briggs.

Kathi Doolan, Town Clerk announced the two Shredding bins had been delivered for the second quarter County-wide Shredding program. They will be in the Town Hall for two weeks. She attended a Town Clerk Association meeting regarding dog licensing, which is not only a local law but a state law. \$1.00 of the fee from each license goes to the ASPCA to help dogs that are sheltered.

The Town Clerk attended Safety and Preparedness Training for Disasters presented by the Army National Guard. She is looking for dates to offer the program for the public.

Fire District, Joe Hanselman, Jr. announced the annual Palm Sunday Brunch is being held at the Firehouse.

Activity: recent chimney fire on route 22. Five fire companies attended. The house was saved.

Committee Reports:

Planning – Not at this time

ZBA – Not at this time

CAC - Not at this time

Broadband: Supervisor Cipkowski and Tod Wohlfarth to meet with Charter Communications March 27 to talk about their expansion in the area. Hoping to meet with Fairpoint. Tod and his team continue to have concerns about inaccurate data on the maps.

Human Resources: Councilperson Tiger and Supervisor Cipkowski to meet about Employee Handbook

Youth Program: Councilperson Sims-Elster reported the applications are being accepted for the Summer Youth Program April 1 – May 1. No openings for Counselors. All Counselors from the 2016 program are returning.

The Easter Egg Hunt is at 1:30 pm in the Hamlet Park, April 9, following the Palm Sunday Brunch at the Firehouse.

The Farmhouse in the Roe Jan Park needs painting. Applications for Bids will be available in April.

Infrastructure: Councilperson Ward had created a new event form for any events using Town property.

Announcement for Bids for the Maintenance of the lawn and gardens and the parks will go out the week of March 27 with bids to be in by April 7, opened April 10, and awarded at the Town Board Meeting April 11.

The Basketball Court is due for renovation. Discussion regarding necessary repairs.

Comprehensive Plan: Supervisor Cipkowski to meet with the chairs of the committees April 8.

Climate Smart: Tom Carty reported the task for the Unified Solar Permit for residential small installations is complete. This is the first of four tasks to be completed to be eligible for \$2,500 in Grant money.

Benchmarking: Howard VanLenten presented an explanation for a resolution to track energy usage and report it to the public. Three buildings qualify: the Town Hall, Sheriff's Sub-Station and the Town Garage. Discussion among Board members.

Resolution #17: Establishing Energy Benchmarking Requirements for Certain Municipal Buildings

On a motion by Councilperson Steve Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster

Adopted Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Grant Opportunity: The DEC has a grant that is available to all towns to install an electric charging station. The Grant offers up to \$16,000 to install and maintain the charging station for up to two years with no cost to the Town.

Robin Reynolds of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission, contracted by NYSERTA offered that the State announced today a new consumer rebate program for anyone who wants to purchase an electric vehicle. The State is encouraging the use of electric vehicles with the rebate up to \$2,000.

Discussion regarding the Grant.

Motion Vote. On a motion by Councilperson Steve Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Robina Ward to move forward and apply for Grant funds from the DEC Zero Emission Vehicle and Infrastructure Rebate Program for a maximum of \$16,000 with the understanding that the Town is responsible for a 20% match which is currently budgeted.

Motion Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Planning Board: Hank Henward stated that he received a notice from the town of Egremont saying that with Massachusetts becoming a Legal Marijuana State, the town of Egremont is trying to place a moratorium on Legal Marijuana. The town questioned whether Hillsdale wanted to send someone to their public meeting for information. The agreement from the Board is no.

Steve and Barbara Smith became aware of a plan to install a major gas station in Craryville and they attended a meeting in Copake. The Town of Hillsdale was not notified. No current information about the plan. Hank Henward will be represented at the next meeting in Copake.

Flea Market: Councilperson Tiger reported that there are 12 vendors. David Gallagher, of Doyle Auction House and appears on Antique Roadshow, is going to offer appraisals. The Fire Department will have a small tent with sandwiches.

Historic Hillsdale: Supervisor Cipkowski reported the committee met recently to realign goals and discuss plans. They are making a commitment to focus on the historical aspects of the entire town and not just the Hamlet district. Three projects:

- Research and identify cemeteries. Develop signage.
- Identify buildings around the town that may be eligible for listing on the State and National Register of Historic Places.
- Historic House Tour, August 12

Housing: A mail survey is going to every household in the Town funded by a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation to help learn what people feel is needed in Affordable Housing. The survey will also be on the Town's website.

New Business: Supervisor Cipkowski reviewed the plan for Local Law #2, the permanent Solar law. The committee will meet March 23 at the Town Hall to review and finalize. It will be circulated to the Town Board. Public Hearing to be scheduled at the end of April with a presentation on what is behind the law.

Discussion at May Town Board meeting.

Pay Bills.

On a motion by Councilperson Steve Tiger, and seconded by Councilperson Robina Ward to pay the bills as presented:

	<u>Vouchers #</u>	
General Fund	54 - 92	\$ 23,308.75
Highway Fund	22 - 47	139,783.10
Sewer Fund	7 - 10	2,345.51
Lighting Fund	2	596.87
Parks	3	44.37

**Adopted Vote Ayes- 5 Nays - 0.
Resolved to Pay the Bills**

Adjourn the Meeting:

On a motion by Councilperson Barbato and seconded by Supervisor Cipkowski to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm

Motion Vote Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Doolan
Town Clerk