



DRAFT

**TOWN OF HILLSDALE  
BOARD MEETING  
June 12, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Hillsdale Town Board was held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 in the Town Hall at 7:00 pm with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Peter Cipkowski  
Councilperson Tom Carty  
Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster  
Councilperson Steve Tiger  
Councilperson Robina Ward

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kathi Doolan, Town Clerk; Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent; Joe Hanselman, Fire Department; Craig Norton, Gretchen Stevens, CAC; David Lewis, CAC; Ken Stahl, Shirley Ripullone, Jeff Paige, Lorna Littleway, Columbia Paper.

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

**Accept Minutes:**

On a motion by Councilperson Sims-Elster and seconded by Councilperson Carty to accept the minutes of the Town Board meeting, May 8, 2018 with two modifications: page 1, Announcements, "Bank of Greene County Foundation contributed a \$500 Grant for **Hillsdale Information Booth** (not design)"  
page 2, Clean Energy, "Her replacement has been **hired.**"

**Adopted Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0**

**Resolved to accept the minutes of the May Town Board meeting.**

**Announcements/Correspondence: Supervisor**

First, Gretchen Stevens of the Conservation Advisory Council talked about the town's Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) project and presented new promotional materials. The Hillsdale CAC will host a public meeting on June 14 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall to introduce the project and encourage residents to learn about and add to the project. While presenting the project, consultants will show preliminary maps and places of special environmental and/or scenic importance throughout the town.

Little Apple Orchard is hosting a free "Tour de Hillsdale" biking event on Saturday, June 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

The Hillsdale Historic Cemetery Presentation given last month at the Roe Jan Historical Society by members Lauren Latellier and Jean Keefer will be repeated at the Roe-Jan Library Monday, June 25 at 6:00 pm.

**Public comments:** Ken Stahl spoke as an active cyclist hoping to see more cycle venues in the community. Supervisor Cipkowski said the town would like to organize a task force to help oversee more cycling opportunities and invited him to join if interested. Jeff Paige mentioned the Rail Trail.

#### **Supervisor's Update from the County Committee:**

- June 13, Board of Supervisors meeting. Discussion on airport improvements. Recommendation to spend \$100,000 on a \$2 million airport project to make it safer and more useable. An FAA Grant will fund 90%.
- Economic Development. Potentially creating a housing coordinator staff position to address the housing crisis the County has.
- Columbia County Fire Association and NYS Fire Association are asking to ban fireworks and sparklers in Columbia County.

Councilperson Jill Sims-Elster recommended the Board members get to know the new owners of Catamount Ski area, Berkshire East. The Supervisor asked Jill to organize a meeting.

**Highway Report:** Richard Briggs, Superintendent said they are putting gravel on some roads and oil and stone on others, roadside mowing, getting quotes on increases for 2019.

**Town Clerk:** Kathi Doolan announced the Shredding bins are in. Hillsdale will host the Columbia Greene Town Clerks Association monthly luncheon June 27 at the Mount Washington House. Joyce Lapenn and Joyce Thompson from the Columbia County Council on the Aging are the Guest Presenters.

**Fire Department:** Joe Hanselman gave his monthly report. Participated in the Memorial Day parade in Copake.

**Tax Collector:** Hanselman reported the Town has collected 94% of taxes to date.

#### **Town Board Reports:**

**Supervisor Cipkowski – Broadband.** The original June 5 switchover date for existing Spectrum customers to install new Cable TV equipment is now July 24. Hillsdale's Broadband Committee (BPO) continues to question the assertion by the State's Broadband Program Office that Charter/Spectrum will expand their lines throughout Hillsdale. The BPO insists their plan, coupled with the Charter expansion will cover 99.9% of New Yorkers.

**Robina Ward** – Infrastructure. Working on electric system in basement of Sheriff’s Sub-station. Would like the town to offer the Sub-station as a place for the Food Pantry since they are leaving the Methodist Church. Will discuss financial arrangement at next Board meeting.

**Jill Sims-Elster**– Summer program filled. Herrington’s is renting the park for an event. One wedding booked. Received a \$110 donation for youth programs.

**Tom Carty** – Nothing to report.

**Committee Reports:**

**CAC** – Dave Lewis explained payments and reimbursements for NRI Grant.

**Clean Energy** –Tom Carty said the Charging Station has been used by five people every month since its been in place. There are in excess of five to date in June. The Library has requested the Town help them with a proposal for a charging station in their parking lot.

**Safe at Home**, a new committee chaired by Joyce LaPenn was announced by the Supervisor. The goal is to identify resources available to people of a certain age and to be educational.

**Old Business/New Business:**

Craig Norton – Trucks on 23. Recommended the town place a “No Engine Brake” sign on Route 23. Many trucks don’t have a muffler and are creating unnecessary noise. The Supervisor has put in the request with Region 8. The DOT does not provide that service on State roads. Councilperson Ward suggested a hamlet-wide petition and send it to the DOT. The Supervisor asked Ward to draft the petition and he’d send it to the Town Attorney for recommendations. He also said he would speak with the Sheriff’s office and ask them to make an effort to pull over the trucks.

Norton offered there is a sign on a State Road approaching Hudson road.

Supervisor Cipkowski said with the resignation of the Former Chair of the CAC, the Town has one potential applicant. The position is open until July 31 so the nomination will take place in August.

Memorial for Jan Keefner. As mentioned at the last meeting, the Supervisor spoke with the Keefners and they would like a tree. Need to determine location and kind of tree.

Budget Amendment #3: The Supervisor requests the following:

**General Fund**

	<b>Increase to Appropriations</b>	<b>Decrease to Appropriations</b>
Contractual A1410.14	\$2,145.00	
Court Clerk Salary A1410.13		\$2,145.00

**Motion** – On a motion by Councilperson Ward and seconded by Councilperson Carty to approve Budget Amendment #3:

**Motion Vote:** Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

**Motion Carried**

Public comments – Craig Norton complimented the Board on the efficient timing of the meeting.

Jeff Paige– On the subject of Engine Braking suggested talking with DOT about changing the speed limit coming in to town from the West from 50 mph to 30 mph.

**Motion** – On a motion by Steve Tiger and seconded by Jill Sims-Elster to authorize the Supervisor to write a letter of support for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail to include with their application for a Grant from the DOT.

**Motion Vote:** Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

**Motion Carried**

**Motion, Executive session** –On a motion by Councilperson Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Ward to go into Executive Session at 7:50 pm to discuss a personnel matter:

**Motion Vote:** Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

**Motion Carried**

**Motion** – On a motion by Councilperson Tiger and seconded by Councilperson Carty To come out of Executive Session at 8:25 pm:

Motion Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

**Motion Carried**

**Resolution** – Pay Bills

**Abstract 6**

**Vouchers #**

General	\$ 14,942.39	141- 186
Highway	19,597.75	85- 101
Parks	874.62	8 - 11
Sewer	6,075.55	15- 20
Lights	650.79	5

On a motion by Councilperson Carty and seconded by Councilperson Sims-Elster to pay the bills as presented:

**Adopted Vote:** Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

**Resolved to pay the bills as presented.**

**Meeting Adjourned.** On a motion by Councilperson Sims-Elster and seconded by Councilperson Carty to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.

**Motion Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0**

**Motion Carried**

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 10 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Doolan  
Town Clerk