

Regular Monthly Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board
Tuesday, May 20, 2008

I. Call to order

Supervisor Art Baer called to order the regular meeting of the **Hillsdale Town Board** at **7:30 pm** on **May 20, 2008**, in the **Hillsdale Town Hall**. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Ann Baldwin, and Carmen Barbato; Town Clerk Julie Kane, Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs, Tax Collector Joe Hanselman, Zoning Enforcement Officer Ed Ferratto, Comprehensive Plan Review Committee Chairman Tom Carty; Natural Resources Committee Chair Paul Solovay; and 7 members of the public.

III. Minutes

On a motion by **Ms. Baldwin**, seconded by **Mr. Barbato**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board approved the minutes of the regular April Town Board Meeting as submitted.

IV. Committee Reports

- a) **SEWER COMMITTEE:** In Augie Sena's absence, Mr. Baer reported that there would be a presentation of a \$491,000 grant to the Town from USDA Rural Development at 2:30 on Thursday, May 22. The public is invited to attend.

Mr. Baer continued that the Board would need to schedule a public hearing to present modifications to the Sewer Project budget and to the projected costs to the typical 2-person family. The hearing was scheduled for 5:30 pm on Friday, June 13, 2008. The public notice will be published on Tuesday, May 27.

Mr. Baer added that the project continues to move along and that the road to the treatment area has been completed with easements and that the Contract #3 work will start soon.

- b) **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:** In Mr. Cipkowski's absence, Mr. Baer summarized his report, which is appended to these minutes.

ROE JAN PARK Mr. Baer stated that the large concrete milk parlor has been razed the County for a nominal cost to the Town and without charging the Town for labor. The office with restroom in the building has been retained.

A picnic was held to benefit the Park on Sunday, May 18, and approximately \$3000 was raised. The Park has also received a \$20,000 Rheinstrom Grant for the construction of an information kiosk and the purchase of a small tractor.

The Park needs volunteers to assist in preparing the Park for opening on May 28th. Mr. Baer added that the NYS Parks Commissioner Carol Ash will be present.

- c) YOUTH PROGRAM: Mr. Baer noted that the Youth Program has been scheduled and is being publicized. He added that he is hoping to receive a grant from State Senator Saland to renovate our basketball facility.
- d) HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent, reported that the Department has finished grading and is starting mowing and patching blacktop. The tree service has also finished its work.

Mr. Briggs added that the loader has still not been delivered and that the delay had necessitated that a \$6000 repair be performed on the old loader to keep it functioning.

Mr. Baer asked what the Town is paying for diesel fuel, and Mr. Briggs replies that 2 weeks ago it was \$3.61.

- e) BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Ms. Baldwin reported that she had met with Glenn Smith who is interested serving as Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer for Hillsdale, as he now does in Kinderhook and Austerlitz. He has proposed working in Hillsdale Monday through Friday for 3 hours each day as CEO and is asking for \$20 per hour.

A general discussion ensued regarding current staff in the Building Department in relation to this proposed new hire. On a motion by **Ms. Baldwin**, seconded by **Mr. Barbato**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to hire Glenn Smith for 15 afternoon hours per week, for up to 52 weeks per year for \$20 per hour and effective June 1, 2008.

On a motion by **Ms. Baldwin**, seconded by **Mr. Barbato**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to change the rate of pay for the Zoning Enforcement Officer from \$17 to \$20 per hour for up to 22 hours per week and effective June 1, 2008.

Ms. Baldwin also reported that Theresa Kisselbrack will take the position of Clerk to the Planning Board for 2 months to determine if she can serve in that position in addition to her current position as secretary to the Building Department. She added that Ruth Dodds will be kept on in the Building Department during the transition.

Ms. Baldwin commended Ed Ferratto, Theresa Kisselbrack, and Ruth Dodds for the good job they have been doing for the Town as the Building Department has been reorganized.

Regarding the apartment inspections, Ms. Baldwin will contact Peter Wurster to determine if all inspections have been completed.

- f) COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Ms. Baldwin reported that the Town web site is being updated and that it is receiving 950 hits per day, most of them on the pages with information related to Town government.

V. Other Business

- a) The question of openings on the Zoning Board was raised, specifically if Casey Kuhn was still serving. Mr. Baer will check with Craig Norton re: vacancies and terms of office so that the position can be advertised if needed.
- b) Ms. Baldwin reminded the Board that the Conservation Advisory Committee was created for two years and that that time had expired. She stated that it should be discussed at the June Board meeting. Mr. Baer asked if the Chairs of the Zoning and Planning Boards want the CAC to be continued.
- c) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE: Tom Carty presented the results of the recent Committee meeting.
 - (1) The Affordable Housing Committee has not met for a while, but Mr. Carty is attending a Land Use Leadership Training Program which discusses an effective method for managing the process. Mr. Baer added that 2 affordable housing projects have been done in the county and that the AHC should study them as possible models.
 - (2) The Natural Resources Committee had submitted 2 grant applications to cover the costs of an aquifer study, to the Berkshire Taconic Foundation and to the Hudson River Valley Greenway. A firm has been identified to do the study.
 - (3) The Hamlet Committee has held 2 successful fundraisers for hamlet beautification and had prepared and planted the flower barrels along hamlet streets.
 - d) A review subcommittee has been set up to consider the responses to the hamlet planner RFQ. The committee will consist of chair of the Planning Board, a Town Board member, Mr. Carty, and 4 members of the Hamlet Committee, including the Chairman, 2 of whom are hamlet residents and 2 who are not. Firms passed by the committee will receive the RFP within the next 2 weeks.
 - (4) The Preservation Committee is working with the consultants to determine which of the 80 buildings identified as worthy of consideration for preservation will be given first attention. Three buildings may be submitted to the National Historic Register, and Bill Krattinger of the NYS Preservation Office will assist with the application process at no charge. The Library will participate, the Methodist Church is deciding whether to participate, and the owners of Aubergine have taken the matter under consideration.
 - (5) The Scenic Overlay Committee has met frequently to discuss protecting scenic and rural character while minimizing impact on homeowners'

rights and investments. The Committee would like to add additional members.

- e) COMMITTEE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY: Paul Solovay, chairman, reported on the Committee's activities to date and recommended that a new section of conservation and green methods be added to the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Baer suggested that the Committee coordinate its work with the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee.
- f) COMMUNITY DAY: Richard Briggs reported that the initial mailings have been done and that the committee is looking for more vendors this year. After discussion of contributions and on a motion by **Mr. Barbato**, seconded by **Mr. Baer**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to contribute \$400 from the Celebration account to Community Day 2008.

- g) BID OPENING: Bids were received for G&S Excavating, Lane Construction, and Colorusso for asphalt and crushed stone. (Bids attached.) On a motion by **Mr. Barbato**, seconded by **Ms. Baldwin**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to accept the bid from Colorusso for asphalt and all crushed stone and the bid from G&S for sand.

- h) PUBLIC COMMENT: Ed Ferratto brought three matters to the attention of the Board:
 - (1) The Logging Permit form required by the Local Law has not been created. Mr. Baer stated that the Board will take care of it.
 - (2) The air conditioning of the second floor in the Town Hall needs to be addressed.
 - (3) Signage regulations are on hold until the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee can address the issue. Mr. Baer asked if the Zoning Enforcement Officer has a recommendation and could draft some proposed language. He added that he will talk with Mr. Carty and the CPRC will come up with some language that can be brought to the Town Board for consideration.

- i) PAY BILLS: On a motion by **Ms. Baldwin**, seconded by **Mr. Barbato**,

Adopted by a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays

It was resolved to pay the Town's bills in the following amounts:

General Fund	Voucher #100 - #129	\$ 40,309.63
Highway Fund	Voucher #80 - #106	\$ 58,487.09

VI. Adjournment

On a motion of Mr. Barbato, seconded by Ms. Baldwin,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays:

Supervisor **Baer** adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk