

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
January 15, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hounsfield was called to order by Deputy Supervisor, Stephen Lee at 7 PM, at the Town Hall, 18774 Co. Rt. 66 and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Deputy Supervisor explained that due to a snow storm, this meeting was postponed one week and Supervisor Scee had a vacation planned this week.

Members present were: Deputy Supervisor Stephen Lee, Councilman Todd Farrington, Councilman Richard Young, and Councilman Carson Lennox.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Young to approve the minutes for the 12/11/13 meeting. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Lennox to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on 12/18/13. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Lennox to approve the end of year meeting on 12/30/13. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract #1, vouchers #1-39 were presented: General Fund A \$36,052.62, General Fund B \$1,468.97, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$1,629.00, Highway Fund A \$54,187.63, Highway Fund B \$34,519.13, Water District 2 \$5,373.60, Water District 5 \$924.68, Water District 1 \$1,203.10, Water District 4 \$874.50, Water District 3 \$1,996.61, Water District 5 Capital Fund \$6,856.57, Abstract Total \$145,086.41.

A motion was made by C'man Lennox and 2nd by C'man Young to pay bills #1-39 in abstract #1. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Clerk to the Supervisor read the Supervisor's Report for December: Total receipts \$255,260.82, Total disbursements \$286,819.44, Total in checking account \$243,790.73, Total investments \$400,000.00.

A motion was made by C'man Young and 2nd by C'man Farrington to accept the Supervisor's Report for December. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Councilman Lee reported that he attended a Comprehensive Plan meeting and it is almost completed.

Councilman Young reported that he attended the Economic Development Committee meeting and also the Hay Memorial Library meeting and reported on upcoming events.

Councilman Farrington had no report.

Councilman Lennox reported that he attended a webinar for newly elected officials.

The Highway Superintendent's work report for December was given. He also added that the last pickup for limbs and brush countywide will be July 1st and there is no FEMA funding available for the ice storm.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C 'man Farrington that due to a meter reading error, the Water Dept. requested a credit of \$250 be given to a customer in Water District 2. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The annual resolution #14-01 was read by the Clerk to the Supervisor and a motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Young to approve this resolution. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Councilman's assignments for 2014 are as follows: Councilman Lee ó water and sewer, Councilman Farrington ó Highway, Fire Dept. and Courts, Councilman Young - Libraries, and Economic Development Committee, Councilman Lennox Recreation and Bed Tax Committees.

An explanation was given for a Verizon GPS program that is available to be installed in the Highway trucks and would give the Superintendent information on each truck, on his computer. It also has towing and tire benefits. This will be revisited next month.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lennox to reappoint Marianne Malatino to a 5 year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term ending 12/31/18. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C 'man Farrington to reappoint Maryanne Oliver to a 5 year term to the Planning Board, term ending 12/31/18. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time, Councilman Lee opened the floor for public comment: There were comments that the Town should have an independent audit, how will it effect the Town

tax rate if the Town has to pay the judgment on the attorney costs of Galloo Island, there is a lack of information on emergency services at Town Board meetings (no fire dept. meeting held this month, percentage of calls responded to, ambulance lost its advanced life support certification, resume of new fire chief has inconsistencies), and litigation expenses.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Lennox to look into getting bids for an independent audit of Town finances. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made at 8:08pm by C'man Young and 2nd by C'man Farrington to go into executive session to discuss litigation. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Board returned to continue the meeting at 8:40pm.

A motion was made by C'man Young and 2nd by C'man Farrington for resolution #14-02, concerning a court suit against the Town by the Schwerzmann & Wise firm, Watertown, N.Y. The motion resolves that the Town of Hounsfield file with the court to leave open its option to appeal the Judge's decision, if the Town chooses to do so. After discussion a vote was taken and all Board members present voted aye, motion carried.

This meeting was immediately adjourned.

Submitted by,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk