

# **TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**April 18, 2012**

**18774 Co. Rt. 66, Watertown, NY 13601**

**7:00 PM**

Supervisor Timothy Scee asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance and also asked for a moment of silence for former, long time, Hounsfield Supervisor, Edward Cobb who passed away this week.

Supervisor Scee opened a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on a proposed Zoning Amendment extending the Marine District easterly from NYS Rt. 180 Hamlet District area along the Black River for almost 2 miles.

The Zoning Officer spoke about the need for this zoning amendment and the floor was opened for comments.

Sharry Rogers was present and commented that she didn't understand why this rezoning didn't extend to Paddy Hill. Supervisor Scee explained that at Paddy Hill the lots were much narrower and there is not room for developments.

At this time the hearing was declared closed and Attorney David Renzi reviewed the SEQR form with the Board, and will proceed with steps that need to be taken to submit this proposed local law to the Board for approval.

The regular monthly meeting of the Hounsfield Town Board was called to order immediately following the public hearing and members present were: Supervisor Scee, Councilmen: Steve Lee, Todd Farrington, Vincent Battista, and Dick Young.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Farrington to approve the minutes of the 3/14/12 meeting. After making a correction of the amount of \$30,797.47 for the cost of the new pick up and plow instead of \$37,000, all voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee received correspondence: A thank you card from Aubertine and Currier for allowing them to make a presentation at the last Board meeting, a thank you card from Sackets Harbor School for the plaque from the Town to the Basketball team that recently won the State Championship, a thank you card from Norm Hunneyman for the declaration of the month of April as Parkinsons

Awareness month, a letter from the Village of Brownville thanking the Highway Dept. for helping them with a water line break, and a letter from the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators asking for support of the proposed "Rooftop Highway". The Town Board decided to table this request until next month.

C'man Young received two letters against the Town and Village hiring a Marketing Director and he read them both.

The Clerk to the Supervisor read the Supervisor's Report: Total Receipts \$158,077.64, Total Disbursements \$163,656.09, Total cash in bank \$236,589.10, and Total Investments \$601,904.09. A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Young to approve the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee to pay the bills in Abstract #4, vouchers #188-248, General Fund A \$20,463.84, General Fund B \$1,195.96, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$1,216.25, Highway Fund A \$25,286.73, Highway Fund B \$5,177.35, Water District 2 \$7,464.42, Water District 1 \$4,028.73, Water District 4 \$1,384.73, Abstract Total \$66,887.68. In discussion, C'man Farrington noted that the whole price of the used bucket truck is in this abstract, when in fact the Town of Adams did repay for their share and is shown as a receipt. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee meeting, attended the bid opening for Water Dist. 5 and they were reasonable bids. He also met with a representative of the Environmental Finance Center at Syracuse University and he agreed to come and help with our proposed Comprehensive Plan at no cost. C'man Lee asked the Board to form a committee to work on the Comprehensive Plan.

C'man Young reported that the Hay Memorial Library held a meeting and would like names submitted of residents that would be interested in serving on their Board because there are a few vacancies coming up. The library's annual meeting is set for April 26, 2012 at 7 PM.

C'man Battista reported that he attended a Fire Dept. meeting and a fire truck was paid off early, in March there were 6 fire calls and 18 EMS calls, the pump house was dedicated in memory of Garrett Loomis, the dept. held elections and an awards banquet is set for April 28<sup>th</sup>.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended the Chamber of Commerce Meet and Greet and heard many opinions on economic development in the Village. He also attended the Smart Management for Small Communities Conference. When C'man Farrington attended the Recreation Commission meeting they approved purchasing back stops for the baseball field at Madison Barracks and they need approval from the Town Board for the expenditure.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista to approve the purchase of back stops for the baseball field at Madison Barracks by the Recreation Commission but not to exceed \$2000 from the baseball budget. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Farrington also reported that the Recreation Commission discussed the possibility of having a small park at the Town's property on the Storrs Road, and this was discussed by the Board.

Supervisor Scee reported that the Town has received \$55,000 from Alliance Bank for Lakeside Cemetery and this is the last bank account to be turned over to the Town.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report for March.

The sealed bids for mowing at Lakeside Cemetery were opened:

Farrington Lawns, Sackets Harbor, NY	\$400.56 per mow	\$8,011.20 yr.
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Yard by Yard, Dexter, NY	\$450 per mow	\$9,000 yr.
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A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Young to accept the bid of \$400.56 per mow by Farrington Lawns, pending receipt of a copy of insurance, for mowing Lakeside Cemetery this season. Voting aye was: members, Battista, Lee, Young and Scee. C'man Farrington abstained. The motion was carried.

The Highway Superintendent reported that the used bucket truck is here tonight for anyone to see and the men have had one operator's course on it and one safety course.

The Highway Superintendent noted that he and the Supervisor attended a meeting on the 1812 Run that will be held this fall and it seems to be well organized.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista to have the Highway Dept. conduct a leaf and limb yard waste pick up this year. This will be advertised in the newspaper and on the website. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Highway Superintendent announced that in the near future, the recycling center will be able to accept rechargeable batteries and electronics and this will also be advertised in the newspaper and website.

The Town Clerk gave a report and a year end Tax Collection Summary.

The Zoning Officer gave a monthly report.

The Planning Board report was given by the Vice Chairperson.

Kris Dimmick of Bernier, Carr Assoc. was present with an update on Water Dist.5. He reported that the sealed bids were opened on April 3, 2012 at 3:00 PM and the low bidders for the pipeline construction were W.D. Malone Trucking & Excavating, Hannibal, NY with a bid of \$3,638,340.20 and the low bid for electrical were 34 & Company, Watertown, NY with a bid of \$77,300. Kris also announced a tentative ground breaking ceremony is set for May 4<sup>th</sup> at the airport.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Lee to set a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on a proposed Town of Hounsfield Ethics Law for May 9, 2012 at 7:00 PM, immediately before the regular monthly meeting of the Town Board. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Stephen Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Todd Farrington for resolution # 12-24, that the Town of Hounsfield hereby consents to the Jefferson

County Industrial Development Agency entering into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement with Lawler Realty LLC and that the Town Supervisor is authorized and directed to execute the consent to said Agreement on behalf of the Town of Hounsfield. In a roll call vote all voted yes and the motion was carried.

A discussion was held by the Board on the request from the Village of Sackets Harbor of \$30,000 over the course of 2 years to hire a Marketing Director to help boost business in the Town and Village.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Young to table this vote until the next meeting, when more information on the position of Marketing Director is provided to the Board. After more discussion, a roll call vote was taken and all members voted yes. This motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista for Resolution #12-25 authorizing the Supervisor to enter into an agreement for control system upgrades for the Town of Hounsfield Water District No. 5 project with SCADATEK, Inc. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Farrington for Resolution #12-26 to adopt a contract with the Town of Adams for the purchase and shared use of a bucket truck. In discussion, C'man Farrington asked about #12 in the contract where it reads that the truck is not intended to be loaned to any other municipality and the Highway Superintendent replied that an emergency would override this statement but a qualified operator would go with the truck. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista for Resolution #12-27 authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Notice of Award for Contract No. 1, pipeline construction, to W.D. Malone Trucking & Excavating for the low bid of \$3,638,340.20 and Contract No. 2, electrical, to 34 & Company for the low bid of \$77,300, for Town of Hounsfield Water District No. 5 project. In a roll call vote all members voted yes and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee made a motion and C'man Farrington 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Board to support a letter from Robert Overton of the Foster Park Road, to the state and county representatives, asking for legislation to provide relief of the costs of municipal water for low income residents of the state. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Farrington to appoint Mandy Driesel, Jericho Road, to the Water Committee. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The floor was opened for comments by Supervisor Scee and Don Payne was present to comment that for economic development, the Chamber of Commerce does consider both the Town and Village.

A comment was made by Helene Rainville that the Town Board certainly needs more information to make a decision on whether to help fund a position of Marketing Director, at least a job description. She also commented on the Fire Dept. reports given to the Town Board. She told the Board that there are internal problems in the Dept. and the Town Board should be aware of it.

Marlene Lennox commented that there was a zoning amendment that was submitted to Jefferson County and approved, which included needed changes to the Route 3 Corridor. It went through a Public Hearing and when this local law needed to be approved by the Town Board, Supervisor DelSignore dropped it and it never became a law.

Kathy Mereand made a comment that the Town has the right to be skeptical of proposals by the Village because of the history between them.

Dave Altieri made a comment that the Town and Village should come together and work out the details of the economic development proposal presented to the Town and make an effort to help the Town and Village in a positive way.

Bev Sterling was present to thank the Town Board and Highway Dept. for the support given to the Muskalonge Cemetery and to ask for help in setting a donated flag pole.

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Supervisor Scee announced that a section of the fence to the rear of Muskalonge Cemetery has been stolen and a section of the fence on the side towards a construction area has been damaged and the land owner made a statement last year that he would repair the fence.

Supervisor Scee thanked Attorney Dave Renzi and Kris and Rachel of Bernier, Carr for all the work on getting Water District 5 to the ground breaking stage.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by,

Diane M. Nier  
Town Clerk