

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hounsfeld was called to order by Supervisor Timothy Scee at 7:00 pm, at the Town Hall, 18774 Co. Rt. 66 and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Board members present were: Supervisor Scee, Councilman Stephen Lee, Councilman Todd Farrington, Councilman Richard Young, and Councilman Carson Lennox.

Jefferson County Legislature Pat Jareo was also present.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Farrington to approve the minutes of the 8/13/14 meeting. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee reported correspondence received: A letter from the Public Service Commission to report they are offering discounted basic telephone service for senior citizens on a limited income and this will be posted for more information. A letter from the Tug Hill Commission was received to notify of a forum to take place on Sept. 30th to update their five year plan. A letter from Knobby Knoll Association to notify of a vote of cottage owners in regard to the proposed water district 6 involvement and the count was 27 yes to 35 no. The project engineers have been notified that they do not wish to be involved in the water district.

The clerk to the Supervisor read the Supervisor's Report for the month of August: Total receipts \$130,755.56, Total disbursements \$424,955.30, Total cash in bank \$80,628.52, Total investments \$800,000.00. A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Lee to accept the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract #9, vouchers #528-586, was presented: General Fund A \$16,783.92, General Fund B \$105.67, Highway Fund A \$9,306.37, Highway B \$120,158.22, Water District 2 \$9,943.44, Water District 5 \$2,380.87, Water District 1 \$95.53, Water District 4 \$10,858.82, Water District 3 \$1,973.68, Abstract Total \$171,606.52. A motion was made by C'man Lennox and 2nd by C'man Farrington to pay bills in Abstract #9. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a Water Committee Meeting, has a meeting with Storrs Road Ext. residents tomorrow, and the water lateral off the Military Rd. that was leaking has been repaired.

He reported that some water credit requests have come in and one is from Eric Tubolino, Storrs Road, asking for credit on an \$8 late fee because he said he did not send the payment in late. The clerk has a payment stub where she wrote a note of the date of the postmark, which was three days after the due date, and this is done with all late payments. C'man Lee did not have a problem with the refund but Supervisor Scee did not think it appropriate. After discussion, C'man Farrington made a motion not to refund the late charge as it was clearly late. Supervisor Scee 2nd the motion. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A second credit request was from Stephen Parks on Rt. 180 for \$200 because, The Water Operator explained, when his meter was replaced it was a meter that was programed incorrectly from the factory and overcharged the water usage on his bills.

C'man Lee made a motion to credit Mr. Parks \$200 and C'man Young 2nd. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The next water credit request was from Jacqueline Rexford for \$344.21 in penalties because the people she sold her property to on a land contract are not paying the water bill. Supervisor Scee made a motion not to credit the \$344.21 in penalties to Mrs. Rexford and C'man Lennox 2nd. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The next water credit request was from Peggy Allison on Foster Pk. Rd. for \$206.18 in repairs. Water Operator, Jeff Kenny explained that Mrs. Allison claims that an electrical wire was cut between her house and boathouse in construction of the district 5 water line. She had the wire repaired and the cost was \$206.18. The engineers of the water project will contact Steve Marshall of the funding agency for this project to see if this would be covered. C'man Lee made a motion and C'man Young 2nd to table until we hear from Steve Marshall from EFC. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee received a final payment request from Bernier, Carr Engineers for the contractor on Water District 5 project in the amount of \$10,000. The Water Operator said there was only one complaint from John and Lucy Angus on the Lee Road. They are saying that the end of their driveway does not drain the way it did before construction. The contractor and engineer have both been contacted and they say there is no problem. The Highway Superintendent has offered to fix the driveway at cost for Water District 5 and the Board agreed to that. The Water Operator agreed that the final payment should be made but the Maintenance Bond for District 5 should stay in effect for two years.

C'man Young reported that he attended the Hay Memorial Library meeting and reports were given for both libraries. He also reported that the Economic Development Committee meeting will be tomorrow, at 8am.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended the Fire Department Board meeting and they agreed to notify the Water Dept. about usage for training or fires. The \$5,000 allocated for the Sulphur Springs building has not been used. He was told that the bottled gas has been returned to the Sulphur Springs building. C'man Farrington reported that the fire dept. is in the process of purchasing a ladder truck. A discussion was held about this purchase. The clerk to the Supervisor will make copies for the Board of a Fire Dept. financial report that was received for last year.

C'man Lennox reported that he attended the Water Committee meeting and the Joint Recreation Commission meeting and gave reports. He also reported that he volunteered at the 1812 race event.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scee and 2nd by C'man Lee to appoint Paul Locy to the Water Committee to represent Water District 1. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Highway Superintendent was absent but submitted a written work report to the Town Board.

A discussion was held by the Board about the new Assessor's program that is being offered by Jefferson County and this was tabled to get more information.

An announcement was made by C'man Lee that a chicken bar-b-que will be held at the Sulphur Springs fire barn on October 4th at noon to benefit the Sulphur Springs Ladies Auxiliary.

Supervisor Scee introduced Local Law #3 of 2014, a tax cap law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by C'man Young to hold a public hearing on Local Law #3 of 2014, to authorize a tax cap override, on October 8, 2014 at 7 pm. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2nd by Supervisor Scee to accept a single bid for \$1.01 by Sharry Rogers that was opened for an advertised used computer. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Bids were then opened by C'man Farrington for the advertised utility trailer:
Mike Shannon bid \$761.00, Larry Beach bid \$405.00, Jim Pennock bid \$352.52, Steve Slate bid \$751.00, and Steve Goodrich bid \$426.21.

A motion was made by C'man Farrington and 2nd by C'man Lennox to accept the bid of \$761.00 by Mike Shannon for an advertised utility trailer. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Supervisor Scee opened the floor for public comment at this time. Comments were made on the high cost of maintaining ambulances and a proposed ladder truck when the number of calls answered in this town by the volunteers is so low. Legistator Pat Jareo reported that Jefferson County is considering changing the radio system for local fire departments in a few years. If this happens the departments will need to purchase costly radio equipment. Also a comment was made about junk in yards in the area of the Lee Road. At this time the floor was closed for public comments.

At this time C'man Young made a motion and C'man Farrington 2nd that the Board go into an executive session for a personnel matter All voted aye and the motion was carried.

The Board returned from the executive session at 8:26 pm and this meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Diane M. Nier
Town Clerk

