

Regular Monthly Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board
Tuesday, June 15, 2010

I. Call to order

Supervisor Art Baer called to order the regular meeting of the **Hillsdale Town Board** at **7:30 pm** on **June 15, 2010**, in the **Hillsdale Town Hall**. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, Christian Kersten, and Augie Sena; Town Clerk Julie Kane, and Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs.

III. Acceptance of the Minutes

Julie Kane, Town Clerk, submitted the minutes of the regular May Town Board meeting. The minutes were accepted with one correction: in Section IV (page 1), the phrase “the Board resolved to authorize the purchase of two portable ‘Yield to Pedestrian’ signs” was corrected to read “the Board resolved to authorize the purchase of one two-sided portable ‘Yield to Pedestrian’ sign”.

IV. Committee Reports

- a) SEWER COMMITTEE: Mr. Sena reported that consultant Patrick Nolan is examining the WTI maintenance contract to see if associated costs can be reduced. Mr. Baer requested that Mr. Sena review the Sewer District actual expenses vs. the budget before presenting a WTI contract to be signed. Mr. Sena commented that the system has enough excess capacity to add users within the existing district or to expand the district.
- b) COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Mr. Cipkowski reported that statistics for the new web site had begun to accumulate and that the calendar and directory pages are those most visited. He added that he is still receiving requests for minutes of Zoning Board of Appeals meetings to be posted.
- c) PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Kersten reported that an opinion survey about the future development of the Roe-Jan Park is being distributed to the public and that the responses will inform the strategic plan for the future of the Park. He added that the electrical upgrades at the Roe-Jan Park were almost complete, with two-thirds of the costs having been defrayed by the “Flowers to Power” fundraiser. He also reported that the Summer Youth Program is fully subscribed and that staff training has begun.
- d) HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Richard Briggs, Highway Superintendent, reported that he had been informed that the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funds had been reinstated for this fiscal year, bringing approximately \$137,000 back into the Highway Department Budget. He added that the department was continuing work to repair the eroded shoulders of certain paved town roads.

- e) BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Mr. Baer informed the Board that he had clarified certain aspects of the proposed Inter-Municipal Agreement for a shared Building Department, and that under the agreement, Hillsdale would retain the department clerk but that the zoning enforcement officer position would be eliminated. He added that the savings to the Town would not be large but that the combining of functions across towns was the “wave of the future.” Mr. Sena stated that he was concerned about zoning enforcement under the proposed agreement, but that Glenn Smith, the current Code Enforcement Officer, had assured him that he would be able to handle the work load.

On a motion by Mr. Kersten, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,

the Board resolved to authorize the Supervisor to enter into a Shared Building Inspection and Code Enforcement Service Agreement with the Towns of Austerlitz and Canaan.

V. Other Business

- a) LIBRARY ACQUISITION UPDATE: Mr. Baer reported that the Library Board has obtained its bridge financing to complete the new library project and that Hillsdale has executed the agreement with the Architectural Bureau to begin work on the building. He added that the Library Board estimates that they will be out of the old Library building by the end of July.
- b) PHILMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: Mr. Baer reminded the Board that the fire protection tax for Hillsdale residents in the Philmont fire protection district is inflated by the multi-million dollar tax exemption enjoyed by the not-for-profit Hawthorne Valley complex. He reported that Martin Ping, executive director of Hawthorne Valley Associates, and the Hawthorne Valley Trustees had agreed to voluntarily rebate \$5000 to the taxpayers, which money would be apportioned among the taxpayers according to *ad valorem* values of the affected properties. Mr. Baer expressed his appreciation to Hawthorne Valley, noting that they had done this willingly and were under no obligation to make this contribution.
- c) PAY BILLS: On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Mr. Cipkowski,

Adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays

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

General Fund	Voucher #151 - #179	\$ 20,018.76
Highway Fund	Voucher #132 - #153	\$ 22,882.68
Parks Fund	Voucher #16 - #18	\$ 505.50
Sewer District #1	Voucher #24 - #27	\$ 1,297.46

VI. Adjournment

On a motion of Mr. Kersten, seconded by **Mr. Barbato**,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays:

Supervisor Baer adjourned the meeting at **9:10 pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk, to be accepted by the Hillsdale Town Board at the July 2010, Regular Board Meeting.