

Village of Hoosick Falls Board of Trustees
Minutes – July 12th 2023 Regular Meeting

Location: New Highway Garage – 7 Waterworks Road

The meeting was called to order at 6:02PM with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call was conducted by Clarissa Mango. Present: Mayor Allen, Trustee Alter, Trustee O’Malley, Trustee Sauer, Trustee Schuttig. Also present: Village Attorney Alaina Finan, Chief of Police Tim Colenari. Absent: Deputy Mayor Ryan, Trustee Decker.

The public hearing that was opened for Proposed Local Law 1 of 2023 - a local law establishing a vacant and abandoned building registry, was discussed. **Motion** to approve the local law by Trustee Schuttig, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

The public hearing that was opened for Proposed Local Law 2 of 2023 – a local law disallowing “junk vehicles” in the village of Hoosick Falls, was discussed. **Motion** to approve the local law by Trustee Schuttig, seconded by Trustee O’Malley. **Unanimously approved.**

The public hearing that was opened for Proposed Local Law 3 of 2023 – a law establishing a Property Maintenance Code for the Village, was discussed. **Motion** to approve the local law by Trustee Schuttig, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

****NOTE:** Local Laws 1, 2, and 3 of 2023 were passed before realizing previous Local Law 1 existed; Department of State recommended renumbering the first one passed (erroneously as LL1) and call it Local Law 4, so that Local Law 2 and 3 didn't need to be renumbered and refiled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COORESPONDANCES

Mayor Allen discussed an upcoming class at Hudson Valley Community College for Web Press. The cost of the class is \$129 which is reimbursable. This course goes over the process of creating and editing a website. Web Press will also allow for there to be multiple users with different logins so multiple people can log in and edit the Village website.

MAYOR UPDATES (*italics come directly from Agenda*)

1. ***NYCOM Training Webinars***

2. *The Board wanted to thank Kenny Holbrook and Jerry McAuliffe for the great job they did restoring the Levee/Floodwall/Greenway Trail. They were able to accomplish this task in two weeks.*

3. ***Excavator***

Village of Hoosick Falls – Regular Meeting Minutes

4. ***A request was made by a resident for a stop sign to be installed at the base of Cummings Street.*** *The request was discussed; however, no decision was made and the board would like to look further into, and better study, the situation. Some ideas that were suggested were: a radar check or an all-way stop section.*

5. ***Trustee Alter discussed the issues of the Jackson Street Playground.*** *There are a number of issues that need to be addressed, such as equipment that needs to be repaired or replaced and rotten wood. It was also brought up to possibly rearrange the layout of the playground to take better advantage of the sun and especially the shade. It was also mentioned that there be cameras installed, and possibly looking into safer/long lasting materials and possibly tearing down unsafe structures. The board will also have to look into any change of codes that may result in doing so.*

6. ***Water Treatment Plant Dehumidification with Trustee Decker was discussed by Trustee Schuttig.*** *Sill in the process of getting the second and third quote. The idea was brought up to possibly rent a dehumidifier.*

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

- Mary Ann Zwicklebauer, Hoosick Rising, approached the board with the request to work with Connor Sutton, to plant 6 sycamore trees on Main Street and lower Classic Street. Two would be in front of the Post Office, two would be to the right of Bistro 42, and then the last two would go where the Village would choose. Sycamore trees are long lived, they are low maintenance, do not have large service roots that would disrupt the sidewalks, they are large and provide shade, and are resilient. Trustee Sauer and Trustee O'Malley will work with Mary Ann to discuss and plan a proposal for the next meeting in August.

REPORTS

- Police Report
 - Chief Colenari was present to discuss the request to purchase 12 new weapons. He has three quotes with a price of \$429.99/gun, that come with 3 magazines and already fit each gun holster. Officers will just need to acquire a Federal Firearms License for each one. Currently the police department is sharing three guns, and a few have also purchased their own, which is dangerous and a liability. A **Motion** to approve the purchase of the 12 new weapons was made by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Unanimously approved.**
 - All of the recruits have returned from sick leave/time off. They now have full coverage and there will be 2 officers per shift
 - **Motion** to approve the Police Report by Trustee Sauer/Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**
- Code Enforcement Report
 - Unsafe building at 18 John Street.
 - **Motion** to approve the report by Trustee Sauer/Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**
- Treasurer – **Motion** to approve by Trustee Decker, Seconded by Trustee O'Malley. **Unanimously approved.**

Village of Hoosick Falls – Regular Meeting Minutes

- Clerk/Deputy Clerk – **Motion** to approve by Trustee Schuttig, Seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**
- Highway/DPW –
 - The parks are looking great! A huge thanks to Kenny Holbrook.
 - Using money that is already in the budget, a motion has been put forward for the purchase of a new lawn mower. The final price is \$3509.69 for a longer lasting, heavy-duty mower. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Sauer/Trustee Schuttig. **Unanimously approved.**
 - **Motion** to approve the report by Trustee Schuttig/Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**
- Sewer – **Motion** to approve the report by Trustee O’Malley/Trustee Schuttig. **Unanimously approved.**
- Water – **Motion** to approve the report by Trustee Sauer/Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

MINUTES – **Motion** to approve by Trustee Sauer and seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Unanimously approved.**

TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Sauer – Planning group to put out more project bids.

Trustee Decker – Absent.

Trustee Schuttig – Reviewed junk car removal and discussed the possibility of creating a contract with Phil’s Auto for towing expenses.

Trustee Alter:

- Jackson Street Playground (previously addressed).
- Also discussed, was the Firehouse Tavern, which is a Gorman Property, and the possibility of finding out who owns the “paper street” in between that building and the HAYC3 garden. A discussion was had about finding out who owns/maintains the property to see whether or not Gorman should have the right to own that paper street.
- Transfer Station will be coming in to discuss the reports of town use and rising rates.
- Waste Management pick up contract coming to an end, thoughts on renewal were discussed – this will be added to August’s meeting.

Trustee O’Malley:

- Summer concerts are underway. He wanted to express thanks to the sponsors for the support! There have already been two successful events and the next one is this Saturday, July 15th. The concert on July 29th will feature The Blue House Rockers and will also have antique cars on display.
- Local laws regarding curb cuts and sidewalks.

Deputy Mayor Ryan – Absent.

Village of Hoosick Falls – Regular Meeting Minutes

Also discussed: reviewing the **Leash Law** in the village and how to go about upgrading it, due to the increase in dog attacks. Dogs should always be on a leash. Nancy Quell is the current Dog Warden. Discussed the idea of appointing a second Dog Warden.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion/Review of ARPA fund status. Reviewed status of funding and discussed coming up with ideas on how to spend the funding. Some ideas mentioned were: police evidence software, body cameras, and a new police vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION regarding the unsafe structure at 18 John Street. It has been decided to notify the owner and demolish the building as it is unsafe and dangerous. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Alter, and seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Roll Call Vote; passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION for Mayor Allen to sign the application for corrected village tax roll on 2 properties: Gale Leva, bill #669 from \$726.49 to \$364.49 and Samuel Swanson bill #1113 from \$1223.63 to \$809.99. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Schuttig and seconded by Trustee Alter. Roll Call Vote; passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION Mayor Allen to sign grant extension letter for the NYS contract #c153617 (North Trail Greenway). **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Sauer and seconded by Trustee Schuttig. Roll Call Vote; the resolution passed unanimously.**

Resolution to use the Eagle newspaper for the official publishing of the \$7, 000, 000 Water System Improvement Notice of Adoption of Resolution due to deadline issues with the Eastwick Press. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee O'Malley and seconded by Trustee Alter. Roll Call Vote; the resolution passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION to appoint Village Clerk Clarissa Mango as the Registrar. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Schuttig and seconded by Trustee Sauer. Roll Call Vote; the resolution passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION approving the payout of 3 weeks of unused vacation time from the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year to Water Operator Jim Hurlburt retroactively to June 26th, 2023. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Schuttig and seconded by Trustee Alter. Roll Call Vote; the resolution passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION approving the hiring of Richie Stifter, Sam Fauler, Karson Holbrook, and Bradley Senecal as part time DPW Summer workers, retroactive to Friday, June 23rd, 2023. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Alter and seconded by Trustee Schuttig. Roll Call Vote; the resolution passed unanimously.**

Village of Hoosick Falls – Regular Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION to accept the resignation of part time DPW summer worker Richie Stifter, effective July 12th, 2023. **Resolution was introduced by Trustee Alter and seconded by Trustee O’Malley.**

Water Supply Development

- **RESOLUTION** authorizing the payment of invoices through a third-party funded escrow account pertaining to the development of new water supply wells and associated infrastructure for the Village. This will not be using the Village’s money. **Roll Call Vote; passed unanimously.**

Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters (with no business to be conducted at the conclusion of Executive Session) made by Trustee Alter, seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Passed unanimously.** Executive Session began at 8:14PM.

Motion to end Executive Session by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Passed unanimously.** Executive Session ended at 10:01PM.

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Schuttig, seconded by Trustee Sauer. **Passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:01PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Clarissa Mango
Village Clerk
8/15/2023