



Mayor: Robert Allen
Deputy Mayor: Robert Ryan

Trustees: Deb Alter, Brett Hanselman,
Dan Schuttig, DougSauer, and Megan Walraed

Wednesday, July 10th, 2024

Village of Hoosick Falls Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, July 10th, 2024

Location: Highway Garage – 7 Waterworks Road

At 6:10PM the meeting was called to order

Opened the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence.

Roll Call was conducted by Village Clerk Olivia Schneider. Present was Trustee Alter, Trustee, Walraed, Trustee Sauer, Trustee Hanselman, Trustee Schuttig, Deputy Mayor Bobby Ryan, Mayor Robert Allen and Attorney Alaina.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COORESPONDANCES

- We are looking for alternate members for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Both the ZBA and Planning Board are full, but with the recent local law passed that allows for additional alternate members, we are looking for people to join and serve. If you are interested, please reach out the Village Office.
- Hubbard Hall presents the comedy “Twelfth Night, or What You Will” by William Shakespeare, to be performed in Wood Park on Sunday, August 18th at 1PM. The rain location will be the Immaculate Conception Church.
- The Village Water Department will be doing Hydrant Flushing for two days in July, between 7am and 3PM each day.
 - On July 15th, hydrant flushing will commence in 2nd and 3rd wards.
 - On July 16th, hydrant flushing will commence in 1st and 4th wards.
- The southern end of the Greenway at Waterworks Road will be closed off through the end of this week for pedestrian safety, due to equipment use and the large equipment in use/nature of the work they are doing. We just found out about this today – sorry for the late notice!

MAYOR UPDATES

1. 3M & DuPont PFOA Settlement Update (regarding class action national settlement with DuPont and 3M. This is unrelated to the local class action settlement and the Village’s situation with Saint-Gobain and Honeywell)
2. Updates on the Organizational Meeting, the Procurement Policy, and the draft Code of Ethics. He has talked a lot with NYCOM about the protocols calls for this meeting and how it should run as well as the ethics policy and Procurement policy. Procurement policy he found out needs to be approved by resolution and the Ethic policy can either be done

resolution or local law. Alaina recommends it done local law so there are no questions about the policy and it is handled correctly. We would need to have a public hearing on the new local law when doing it. We will continue to talk about the Organizational meeting later on in this meeting.

Chuck Prebble was at the meeting with his wife. The Mayor took a moment to thank chuck for all he has done for the Village of Hoosick Falls since 2011. He will be great missed by all.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

1. Kevin O'Mally who lives at 42 Rogers Ave Hoosick Falls. He brought up the local laws 2/3 that were done on junk cars and vacant houses. Kevin expressed that list of properties he has sent to the Village have not been taken care of yet and believes this is something needs to be done to help clean up the Village. Mark did reply to Kevin on how he has taken care of two of the junk cars but some go through court since Alaina states if the person is already in court for other charges, they add property clean up to this as well. But all other properties do not need to go through court to remove the cars. Mark said he has to get to the rest but it all falls back on he needs an assistant to help with a lot of these things he can't do without help. Trustee Sauer asked what the process is for getting the ball rolling on hiring someone and who handles the interview process. The Mayor states that Mayor and deputy Mayor along with Trustee Alter will handle the interviewing for the position.

MOTION was made to move forward with the hiring process for code enforcement assistant by Deputy Mayor Ryan and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all.**

Kevin brought up Jack Cataneo properties which is located on Classic Street 42, 44, 48 and 54 in Hoosick Falls. Trustee Schuttig told him that Jack has passed away and it was a scam when someone was trying to sell it, they figured out a few weeks back and that all those properties are still under his name. New Jersey states there is no activity on his estate. Kevin told the board that the Village can call New Jersey Attorney General to find out more information regarding these properties.

Kevin brought up the summer concerts and how this Saturday July 13th they will be presenting a plaque for Elhannons who donated to the Village and labor donations included for 8 trees. Hoosick Rising also raises close to 20,000 in donations as well as multiple people donating to the concerts too.

2. Jasen VonGuiness from 2 Center Street in Hoosick Falls. He brought up the Zoning Law for fences and recommend again that its switch to 6 feet fence is okay in back yard without having to get application and go in front of the board unless code enforcement officer believes otherwise. Alaina said we will need to make it a Local Law. Mayor Allen recommends a Local Law be put together by Mark the code enforcement officer, Trustee Alter and Attorney Alaina and have ready for next regular board meeting in August.

Next Jasen read a message from Megan Alburt who lives at 2 Center Street Hoosick Falls who could not make the meeting. She states that the Historical preservation comity is almost done writing their ordinance and will have that to the board next week. They have no vision statement from the village to go off from though. Mayor told Jasen to let the historical preservation to come up with a vision statement of what they want future to look like and propose it to the board. Jasen said he will do that.

Last thing Jasen mentioned was the murphy building. He believes we should try and get in touch with Rensselaer County who know owes it because the Village could you this building for many different things.

People to be heard has officially ended with only two people at the meeting who wanted to speak.

DISCUSSION regarding a request from 152 Main Street, who has approached the Code Enforcement Officer about a request to downsize the area of lawn on the property that gets mowed.

The Mayor at this time let Code Enforcement Officers Mark speak about this issue. Mark stated that property owner came to him asking if there is any way that the whole yard has to be mowed without breaking the code law. Mark told her he would bring it up to the board and see their thoughts. Alaina explains she needs to go through the local law and will let us know what we can do for this property owner.

REPORTS:

- Police:
MOTION to approve police report made by Trustee Alter and 2nd by Trustee Hanselman.
Unanimously approved by all.

- Code Enforcement:
MOTION to approve Code Enforcement Officer report was made by Trustee Alter and 2nd by Deputy Mayor Ryan. **Unanimously approved by all.**

- Treasurer:
MOTION to approve the Treasurer report was made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously approved by all.**

- Clerk/Deputy Clerk:
MOTION to approve the Clerk and Deputy Clerk report was made by Deputy Mayor Ryan and 2nd by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously approved by all.**

- Highway/DPW:
MOTION to approve the Highway/DPW report was made by Trustee Alter and 2nd by Trustee Hanselman. **Unanimously approved by all.**

- Sewer:
MOTION to approve the Sewer report was made by Deputy Mayor Ryan and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all.**

- Water:
MOTION to approve the Water report was made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Alter.
Unanimously approved by all.

MINUTES:

Minutes are available for the June 12th Regular Meeting and the June 26th Special Meeting.

MOTION was made to approve minutes from June 12th Regular Meeting by Deputy Mayor Ryan and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all. Absent was the Mayor at this meeting so he recused himself from the vote.**

MOTION to approve the minutes from June 26th Special Meeting was made by Trustee Alter and 2nd by Trustee Hanselman. **Unanimously approved by all.**

TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Alter:

1. Brought up parking signs and where they should be put. Mayor told her there is a hard copy of the map that she can get from the Village Office.
2. Wants to get a Grant writer sooner rather than later specially now that they own the Oak-Mitsui property.
3. Hoosick Bloom was the weekend of 13th doing a fundraiser and first art show at the gallery.

Trustee Hanselman:

Nothing to report at this time.

Deputy Mayor Ryan:

Nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Sauer:

Wants to make a decision on a Grant Writer and make a motion to move forward with finding one. Alaine told them they can make a motion with a certain amount that will not be exceeded.

A **MOTION** was made to allow the Mayor to authorize grant writer that will not exceed 5,000 dollars made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously approved by all.**

Trustee Schuttig:

Dan talked to Alaina about Paid Family Leave and how he has been in contact with the previous people the Village use to do it through. She told him there will need to be a motion for employees to have opportunity to join it if they want to. Alaina will have a motion for next regular board meeting in August.

Trustee Walraed:

1. Started with the 3 quotes she got for the website which were Flynaut, Delta Animations and Divide by Nine. Flynaut and Delta Animations to her their proposal were not made for us it was a generic one it seemed they sent to all customers. She also said that for those to she wasn't talking to the person that was going to be handling our website which didn't feel personal for us either. Their estimated yearly cost was also more than what we budget for. Divide by Nine was the last quote Megan got. She explained that their proposal was more personal and made for us. She said it was made into a website format that they needed a password for to even review it. When she was talking on the phone with Divide by Nine, she was speaking with the guy that will actually be doing our website so he knew exactly what we wanted it to look like. The quote was under our budget which was awesome too. Megan and the Board agreed after reviewing each quote that Divide by Nine would be best for The Village Website.

A **MOTION** was made to except the proposal from Divide by Nine for handling the Village of Hoosick Falls Website made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all besides Trustee Walraed because she was the one who talk to each web designers.**

2. Next, she brought up the water department. She is explained that there are parts that need to be fixed and these parts are breaking because of all the water that is in there. Unsafe to work in due to the amount of water on the ground. The humanity in the building specially right now is making more water down there. She explains more things will rust and break if they don't get the humanity under control. Wrapping the pips will help along with a humidifier. Megan said this will need to be bid out and engineer will need to come make a plan. Mayor said he will talk to Delaware Engineering and they will have it to us before next meeting. Mayor also told Megan to gets quotes for the broken parts that need to be fixed.
3. Lastly Trustee Walraed brought up Scott Street and how the lines need to be fixed. Two years ago, the department of health stopped them about it. Engineer will need to come in and make a plan for this as well. Will continue to look into this and make a plan.

OLD BUSINESS

(none)

NEW BUSINESS

Organizational Meeting

- Review of Organizational Meeting documents: Agenda, Two Resolutions, and Committee Assignments.

The Mayor briefly showed the Board the Organizational Documents. The board members will have time to review each of them more since they made a decision to table the meeting till further date. Board members and the Mayor will discuss any changes phone in them over email.

MOTION to table Organizational Meeting till a further date was made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Deputy Mayor Ryan. **Unanimously approved by all**

DISCUSSION regarding CHIPS funding, street paving, and the need for a dump truck (Supt Holbrook; Deputy Mayor Ryan)

Water Supply Development/ROD

RESOLUTION authorizing an easement with National Grid to extend electrical service to the new wellfield was offered by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all. With Trustee Hanselman recusing.**

MOTION to enter Executive Session to discuss a potential future hiring decision (with no business to be conducted at the end of Executive Session) was made by Trustee Sauer and 2nd by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved by all**

Meeting was Adjourn at 9:20PM.

MOTION to end Executive Session by Doug, seconded by Megan. **Unanimous Approved by all.**

MOTION to adjourn by Dan, seconded by Megan. **Unanimous Approved by all.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:49pm

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Schneider

Village Clerk

