

Village of Hoosick Falls Board of Trustees

Minutes – December 13th, 2023 Regular Meeting

Location: New Highway Garage – 7 Waterworks Road

The meeting was called to order at 6:03PM with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call was conducted by Clarissa Mango. Present: Deputy Mayor Ryan, Trustee O’Malley, Trustee Alter, Trustee Sauer, Trustee Schuttig, and Trustee Walraed. Also present: Building Inspector Mark Surdam, Village Attorney Alaina Finan. Mayor Allen was absent.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW VILLAGE TRUSTEE WALRAED

Deputy Mayor Ryan read Mayor Allen’s memo appointing Megan Walraed as Village Trustee, filling the vacancy of former Trustee Robert Decker, who resigned effective December 1st. Trustee Walraed was then sworn in by Village Clerk, Clarissa Mango.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION to open the public hearing regarding the Proposed Local Law #6, A Law Creating a “Historic Preservation Commission” in the Village of Hoosick Falls, made by Trustee alter, seconded by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously approved.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORESPONDANCES *(Italics come directly from the agenda)*

Village Election Information:

- *The Village Elections will be on March 19th 2024 from noon to 9PM at the Ann Bornt Municipal Building.*
 - *4 Trustee Seats are on the ballot, all for 2-year terms (Alter, Walraed, O’Malley, Schuttig)*
 - *Individuals may begin sign independent nomination petitions beginning on January 2nd, 2024, and must be filed by February 6th, 2024.*

MAYOR UPDATES *(Italics come directly from agenda)*

1. *A changeout of the carbon for the GAC system has been scheduled for January 16th, 2024.*
2. *The Mayor authorized a contract with Ambient Environmental Inc for a variance and asbestos project/air monitoring for the demolition of 18 John Street. Once the waiver has been received, a date for the demolition will be set.*
3. *The Mayor, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor and the DPW Superintendent, authorized an emergency spending measure – removal of the old oil tanks and installation of a new oil tank at the old Highway Garage. The older tanks were no longer able to be filled, preventing the building from being heated properly until fixed. The work is complete.*

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

1. Paul Lyons, resident of Geers Hollow Lane, approached the board regarding the advanced continuation of improvement at the turn-around at the end of his street. Since moving there, he has managed and taken care of the property. However, he is asking the Village for help dealing with the raw sewage that is leaking from the two man holes on the property. They are becoming backed up from the Healthcare facilities on Danforth Street. He is also concerned about the safety of the turnaround for emergency vehicles, and others, who need to use the turn around. He stated that it does not get plowed or salted.

REPORTS

Police Report

MOTION to approve the Police Report by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Alter.
Unanimously approved.

Code Enforcement Report

- 59 Classic Street is a work in progress

MOTIN to approve the Code Enforcement report by Trustee Alter, seconded by Trustee Sauer.
Unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report – MOTION to approve by Alter, seconded by Trustee Sauer. **Unanimously approved.**

Village Clerk/Deputy Clerk Report – MOTION to approve by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

Highway Department Report:

- 99 Carey/Railroad Avenue tree has been taken care of.
- Bradley’s will be wrapping up the electrifying of the street lights by the end of the week.
- Hometown banners— Do we need to contact National Grid to hang those?

MOTION to approve the Highway Department report by Trustee Walraed, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

Sewer Department report – MOTION to approve by Trustee Alter, seconded by Trustee Sauer. **Unanimously approved.**

Water Department Report – MOTION to approve by Trustee Alter, seconded by Trustee Sauer. **Unanimously approved.**

MINUTES

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes from the November 8th regular meeting by Trustee Walraed. Seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Sauer

- Revitalization proposal is moving on time- very optimistic!
- Police Committee Review Board – appointment of Linda McGuire to the board.

Trustee Walraed

- Happy to be back on the board!
- What committees will she be on/assigned to?

Trustee Schuttig

- EAP—Employee Assistance Program
 - Offers employee disciplinary help, whether it be personal or not.
 - Enhanced costs \$1750 a year for all employees.

- The trees in the park look great, perhaps more Ghenko trees (they last forever) by the Episcopal Church. Thought of doing a dedication to Dr. Martinez. - Talk to Marianne Zwiklebauer

Trustee Alter: Thank you to Kenny and his guys for decorating and being very patient. Also wanted to thank him for the helping with installment of the trees in the park with Elhannon's.

Trustee O'Malley

- The Tree Lighting was a great turnout.
- Thanks to:
 - Aaronn Buzzinski for decorating the gazebo
 - Tony Nuccio for being Santa
 - Elhannon's for all the new trees
 - Community Brass Band and HFCS Chorus
 - Amiee Allen, she always purchases a tree on Main Street and decorates it.
 - Tim Smith helped set the monument.

OLD BUSINESS

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RESOLUTION authorizing the Village to enter into a Fiscal Advisors Agreement offered by Trustee Sauer and seconded by Trustee O’Malley. **Roll call vote; Trustee Walraed abstained; all others approved.**

MOTION to approve the hiring of Quality Glass, in Troy, to fix the broken window on 59 Church Street for \$1300.00 by Trustee O’Malley, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Unanimously approved.**

NEW BUSINESS

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 offered by Trustee Schuttig, and seconded by Trustee Alter. **Roll call vote; passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION enacting Local Law 6 of 2023 establishing a Historic Preservation Commission for the Village of Hoosick Falls offered by Trustee O’Malley and seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Roll call vote; passed unanimously.**

New proposed local law regarding parking on front lawns was introduced to the board, however, it needs to be defined more. The Law Committee will work on this.

RESOLUTION authorizing the village to enter into an agreement for employee EAP services offered by Trustee Sauer and seconded by Trustee Walraed. **Roll call vote; passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION hiring a per diem worker (Debbie Drake) in the Village Clerk’s Office offered by Trustee Schuttig and seconded by Trustee Alter. **Roll call vote; passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION appointing an individual (Linda McGuire) to the civilian review and reform board offered by Trustee Sauer and seconded by Trustee Alter. **Roll call vote; passed unanimously.**

MOTION authorizing the Mayor to execute agreements pertaining to Smart Control Options and Streetlight Conversion with Real Term Energy/RTE Energy Solutions made by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee O’Malley. **Unanimously Approved.**

MOTION to relevy unpaid June 2023 Village Property Tax Bills to Rensselaer County to be included in the January 2024 Town/County tax bills made by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously Approved.**

MOTION to approve the use of Wood Park by Dave Harrison/The Lions Club for the sale of Christmas Trees on Saturday, December 3rd, retroactive to November 20th (note: this was initially approved via email due to the timing of the request) made by Trustee O’Malley, seconded by Trustee Schuttig. **Unanimously Approved.**

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MOTION to enter Executive Session to receive advice from counsel and to discuss personnel matter (with no business to be conducted at the conclusion of Executive Session) made by Trustee Schuttig, seconded by Trustee Walraed. **Unanimously Approved.** Executive session began at 8:13PM.

Motion to end executive session by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Passed unanimously.**

MOTION to adjourn by Trustee Sauer, seconded by Trustee Alter. **Passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned by 9:58PM.

*Respectfully submitted by
Clarissa Mango
Village Clerk
12/28/2023*