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**PRESS RELEASE** - For Immediate Release

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## **VILLAGE BOARD TO VOTE ON \$255K INTERIM SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT RELATED TO PFOA CONTAMINATION**

*Agreement covers past and anticipated costs; maintains legal rights for the Village*

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Hoosick Falls will consider a new interim settlement agreement with Saint-Gobain and Honeywell in a special meeting to take place this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

The interim agreement includes \$185,000 for past costs the Village took on as a result of the PFOA contamination, and \$70,000 in anticipated costs related to the operation and maintenance of the GAC filtration system for the current fiscal year. Like both previous interim settlement agreements, this will maintain the Village's legal rights going forward.

"This agreement is another small but important step forward as we work to make the Village whole," said Mayor Robert Allen. "Not only does this reimburse the Village for more of the previous financial burden it had to bear, but it also addresses anticipated costs related to the daily costs of operating the filtration system, something the Village began taking on when the system came online in late 2016. Most importantly, we still maintain our legal rights; in short, the Village's costs are covered and the Village maintains its claims for damages against the companies."

The Village will be extending the previous tolling agreement another 5 months to October of 2019. "There is still more work and more investigation that needs to be done to understand the full extent of the PFOA contamination," Mayor Allen said. One major part of the Village's long term recovery will be the release of DEC's Alternate Water Supply Study anticipated in July. This report will list out all of the available options for the Village's long term water supply. "This is a big part of understanding where Hoosick Falls will be with water five, fifty, and a hundred years from now," Mayor Allen explained.

The interim settlement agreement is available on the Village website for review by the public. As the Village advertised last week, this special meeting will be held this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, located at 24 Main Street in Hoosick Falls.

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