



TOWN OF HILLSDALE
Town Board Meeting – October 8, 2024
Minutes

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hillsdale, Columbia County in the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 2609 State Route 23, Hillsdale, NY 12529 on October 8, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Board members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Mike Dvorchak
Councilmember Joanna Virello
Councilmember Tom Carty

ABSENT: Councilmember Irwin Feld
Councilmember Jamie Carano Nordenstrom

ALSO PRESENT: Emily Stalker Deputy Town Clerk
Richard Briggs Highway Superintendent

ABSENT: Robina Ward Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Chase, Bart Zeigler.

ATTENDING ON ZOOM: Shannon Bell, Meg Wormley

TRADITIONAL VIDEOCONFERENCING NOTICE:

Notice of said meeting was posted on the Town Website. The public is invited to participate at the town hall or the videoconference meeting location at 2609 State Route 23, Hillsdale, NY 12529.

Supervisor Dvorchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

September 10, 2024, Regular Meeting

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the September 10, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

September 26, 2024, Special Meeting

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the September 26, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Dvorchak reminded everyone that the Budget Workshop is on Thursday at 2:00pm, and Wednesday October 16th at noon. The Public Hearing will be on October 29 at 6:00pm and the Town Board Meeting following at 6:30pm. The next regular meeting is November 19 at 7:00pm.

Financials

Supervisor Dvorchak reported that the Town of Hillsdale remains in good financial shape and that we are now in Budget season.

Abstract Disbursements for September 2024:

General Account	130,369.18
Highway Fund	216,449.65
Sewer Fund	2,202.31
Park Fund	4,073.30

Budget Amendments 10-2024

Ulocate+ and Flexitrace - Quote \$4453.15

Supervisor Dvorchak relayed that these town items are necessary pieces of equipment for the town to own, as per our Town Engineer. Currently we have no way to properly answer requests from NY State Digs in a timely manner.

Resolution 85-2024

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the purchase of the Ulocate and Flexitrace equipment for the sum of \$4,453.15.

New Outdoor Bulletin Board -Quote - \$4,670.00

Supervisor Dvorchak stated the current Bulletin Board was rotted and falling apart and needed replacement.

Resolution 86 -2024

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the purchase of the Bulletin Board for the sum of \$4,670.00.

West End Bridge RFQ

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that our Clerk and Deputy Clerk have successfully signed up for the Bidnet service and were taking the training and getting the proper credentials. Since we are delayed in posting the RFQ, the deadline will be November 25.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Supervisor Dvorchak thanked the entire Highway Department for the work being done. The Chazen Park plan had budgeted 11K for removal of the bleachers and Fence and the over six figures to fix the drainage. He noted we have already seen cost savings from the purchase of the John Deere Excavator. Highway Superintendent submitted a monthly report. The CHIPS refund is coming in and we are expecting one more this year.

Resolution 88-2024

To authorize Highway Superintendent to order a 10 wheel truck
On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Supervisor Dvorchak.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the highway superintendent to order a 10 wheel truck at a cost of approximately \$270,000.00.

Resolution 87-2024

To authorize payment for the 6 Wheel Dump Truck at a cost of \$250,421.48, it was ordered in 2022 and received this year, 2024.

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the purchase of a 6-wheel Dump Truck at a cost of \$250421.48, funds from the unassigned general fund balance.

Town Clerk Report

Deputy Clerk Stalker stated that she had conducted one wedding this month.

Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association Fact Sheet

Main Street Magazine Article

Supervisor Dvorchak reported has continued discussions with Didi Barrett and Michelle Hinchey. Board Member Irwin Feld also talked with Senator Hinchey at her office opening the previous evening. Senator Hinchey has talked to representatives in Senator Schumers office about possible grant funding. Assemblyperson Barrett is working on adding a line item to finish the bridge in the 2025 New York State Budget. Supervisor Dvorchak has let both representatives know that we stand at the ready to help them in any way possible.

Roe Jan Park

Maintenance Update

Councilmember Virello stated that this Sunday they are installing the new entry signs, and the commemoration plaques for the Rhinestrom foundation have been ordered. New equipment for the farmhouse has been ordered. Herringtons are giving a price for roofing supplies and Scot Decker is working on a quote for the installation of the roofing at the farmhouse. The septic has been repaired. The vermin situation has been dealt with.

Dog signs are all installed.

Three videos have been created to promote the park and will be put on the Town website.

Migratory Bird Update

Gretchen Stevens submitted a report.

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that there would be a discussion at the December meeting about the mowing schedule and renewal of farmland leases.

Sewer District Report

Supervisor Dvorchak reported that Les from H20 and George from CPL were close to starting to test. There was an issue with finding a company to test on weekend hours. The probable solution will be for H20 to gather solutions over the weekend. He will keep the board posted on the status of testing.

CREST Grant Status (Barrett)

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that the grant applications goes through the Ways and Means Committee then to the Dormitory Authority. They have made a request for a resolution from the Town to cover any costs above the \$125,000.00 awarded.

Resolution 89-2024

For the Town Board to commit funds up to \$500.00 from the Hillsdale Sewer district line item G8120.4 account to pay for any overages from Project ID 26508, awarded amount of \$125,000.00.

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the commitment of funds up to \$500.00 from the Sewer District account.

CREST Grant (Hinchey)

Supervisor Dvorchak submitted a draft application for comment to Senator Hinchey's office. The initial plan was to submit \$125K in engineer fees in case the leak is an issue and then modify later in the process. The Senator's office advised that the State would not pay just engineering fees, and to resubmit with other items. The Supervisor is working with H20 and CPL to submit a revised application.

Newsletter

Supervisor Dvorchak has not received any emails of interest. He suggested that we look at this in the budget process.

Committee Reports

Hamlet Committee

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that the town and Hamlet committee was collecting more public input in reference to Hamlet Park and was planning a Park Survey.

Resolution 90-2024

For the Town Board to approve the Hamlet Park Survey.

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves the Hamlet Park Survey.

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that there would be a Gardening Day at Town Hall on October 19th. Kidsdale is on October 26 the same day as the Fire Company Halloween.

Public Comment

Jennifer Chase commented that it would be great to have better communication between the town and the businesses in the Hamlet.

Supervisor Dvorchak stated that he would add Jennifer to the Hamlet Committee.

General discussion on how the businesses and the town coordinate events.

Housing Committee

Attorney Ken Dow has reviewed the ADU laws and advised that no changes were needed. There is an ADU event at the Roe Jan Library on November 2, 2024.

Infrastructure

Town Hall Repairs

Supervisor Dvorchak reported that the final reconciliation is happening with CPL and the contractor.

Motion to adjourn to executive session , to discuss Personnel, Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, all in favor, time is 7:52 pm.

Motion to return to regular session , Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, all in favor, time is 7:53 pm.

Resolution 91-2024

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, to appoint Lauren Letellier to the Historic Committee.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved, the Town Board approves appointing Lauren Letellier to the Historic Committee.

Resolution 92-2024

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, to appoint Chris Atkins to the Historic Committee.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves appointing Chris Atkins to the Historic Committee.

Resolution 93-2024

On a motion of Supervisor Dvorchak, seconded by Councilmember Carty, to appoint Jeanne Kiefer to the Historic Committee.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves appointing Jeanne Kiefer to the Historic Committee.

Resolution 94-2024

On a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, to approve Councilmember Feld and Supervisor Dvorchak as liaisons to the Historic Committee.

The motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dvorchak, Virello, Carty

Resolved the Town Board approves appointing Jeanne Kiefer to the Historic Committee.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Town Board on a motion of Councilmember Virello, seconded by Councilmember Carty, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm, carried unanimously.

Emily Stalker, Deputy Town Clerk