

July 1, 2024 Town Board Meeting Minutes

The first regular meeting of the Kingsbury Town Board was conducted on July 1, at the Kingsbury Town Hall, 6 Michigan Street, Hudson Falls.

PRESENT: Dana Hogan, Supervisor
Sean Akins, Deputy Supervisor
William Haessly, Councilman
James Lindsay, Councilman
Dan Washburn, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Pattie Simone, Harrison Freer, Howard Raymond, Feeder Canal Alliance
Mason Leonard, Highway Superintendent
Todd Humiston, Dog Control & Enforcement Officer
Paige Zahaba, Deputy Town Clerk
Mike LaRose, Highway Employee
Jeffrey Meyer, Town Attorney

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hogan at 6:30 pm and opened for the order of business with the Flag Salute led by Councilman Akins.

The minutes of the June 17, 2024, Town Board Meeting, were accepted as submitted by the Town Clerk with a **motion** by Councilman Akins seconded by Councilman Haessly and carried by a vote of 5 ayes.

Pattie Simone of the Feeder Canal Alliance has been corresponding with the Town. She thanked the Board for their support. They are hoping that sometime the Board may be able to attend some of the meetings they have. She introduced Howard Raymond who was the Board President for 31 years and the incoming President Harrison Freer. Pattie is the part-time Executive Director of the Feeder Canal Alliance which is a small organization; there is no one else working in the organization other than the Board members as well as volunteers. For the past 36 years they have been stewards and advocates to improve and maintain the Feeder Canal Towpath trail and to make improvements to amenities, clean-ups, and providing educational programming. Pattie started a year and a half ago and programming is very important to her; getting in front of new audiences and having them know about the Feeder Canal Alliance. The Alliance serves residents, visitors are calling all the time asking if the Canal is open, can I kayak, is there a fee to park, where is there parking, can I walk my dog, etc., etc. She provided a copy of the latest version of the trail map. They are using the coal silos a lot more which have been named the Howard Raymond Field School for all of Howard's involvement through the years. On May 23rd they launched their first concert, and it was a big hit. They are starting to do more radio with some proceeds from occupancy tax funds received from the Town of Queensbury. Their mandate is to get out to more people, to have people from Saratoga, discover what goes on at the Silos, Murray Park and places that are in Hudson Falls. All these things lead to good things in Kingsbury and Hudson Falls as well.

Key stockholders' meetings have been scheduled with invitations to all the municipalities. They will discuss their goals and what they are going to try to do to obtain grants, the different municipalities and businesses and sponsors.

The Feeder Canal Alliance has requested the same amount of funding for at least 11 years.

Supervisor Hogan stated the Feeder Canal Alliance usually receives \$1,000.00 and they are requesting \$1,500.00 this year and \$1,704.00 next year to cover their insurance costs.

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Councilman Haessly asked if there were any improvements planned. Pattie replied they received a grant from Glens Falls Hospital, they are getting benches; their goal is to get benches on the whole trail every 1/3 of a mile. They are also working on funding to replace the bridges at Five Combines.

Councilman Haessly asked if debris could be cleaned up at a portion of the canal near Pearl Street. Pattie explained Canal Corp has been attending key stakeholder's meetings; the next one is July 10th; the Board has been invited to attend and could pose questions at that time.

Councilman Haessly asked about the cost of the benches. Pattie explained they are purchasing 5 at a time at a cost of approximately \$800.00 each. She is working with the DPW folks to have them installed. There will be a concert at the Coal Silos on July 17, 2024.

A **motion** by Councilman Haessly seconded by Councilman Washburn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to grant \$1,500.00 this year and a resolution will be made next year for \$1,704.00 to the Feeder Canal Alliance to cover the increase in their insurance fees.

Councilman Haessly would like to discuss what else the Board could do if they had additional funds. Supervisor Hogan stated this could fall under the Community Host Money the Town will receive funds through TDI for the power project.

Supervisor Hogan thanked Howard Raymond for his 31 years of service with the Feeder Canal Alliance.

Pattie invited the Board to a celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Feeder Canal Alliance and to recognize Howard's service to the Alliance at the Sandy Hill Arts Center on October 24th.

A **motion** by Councilman Lindsay seconded by Councilman Washburn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes for an agreement between the Washington County Youth Bureau and the Town of Kingsbury. (Document attached)

LEGAL UPDATE: Any legal update will be discussed in an executive session.

TOWN CLERK REPORT: Village Trustee Dan Hogan picked up his copy of the Comprehensive Master Plan and requested a copy for the Village of Hudson Falls; Supervisor Hogan will provide a copy.

On August 1st the clerk office will begin selling hunting licenses, they will no longer use the printer and Veloron provided by NYS, the office will use their plain paper and printer to print licenses. An agreement has been signed by the Town Clerk. (Agreement attached)

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER & DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT:

Todd received a complaint from the Village of Hudson Falls Code Department about a house that is on the border of the Village and Town. Notices have been sent out to the owner who does not live on the property. The tenants are family members who were recently evicted from another home for allegedly squatting. There is at least a couple of roll-offs of household trash on the property. The property is located right next to the school. The tenants agreed to get rid of the trash and as of today there is a tarp over the pile of trash. He is unable to reach the property owner, the notices sent are being returned. There is a car on the property with bullet holes through the front window and door and the 4 tires are slashed. Village Code reported drug dealers have been taken out of the residence. Attorney Meyer will research the Town's Local Laws.

The violation of the solar project on Vaughn Road has been closed, they are back in compliance. AES has new manager for their sub-contractor and have a local former AES employee who is managing the site. The site is once again an active construction site.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Mason would like an executive session to discuss personnel.

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COUNCILMAN REPORT: Councilman Haessly asked where the Town stood on ARPA Funds. Supervisor Hogan reported the Comptroller sent email inquiries to DASNY to find out the status of the grant for the waterline; she asked the Board to wait before the remainder of the ARPA Funds. He will check with Rebecca for any updates.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There is no public comment.

A **motion** by Councilman Haessly seconded by Councilman Washburn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to enter into an executive session at 6:53 pm to discuss a personnel matter and pending litigation.

A **motion** by Councilman Haessly seconded by Councilman Akins and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to exit the executive session at 7:50 pm, no action was taken. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Bardin, Town Clerk