

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

TOWN OF HUME

August 28, 2013

A regular meeting of the Hume Town Board, Allegany County, New York was held on August 28, 2013 at the Town of Hume Museum, 10842 Claybed Road, Hume, New York. Supervisor Dennis Ricketts called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Officials in attendance: Supervisor Dennis Ricketts; Council members Gregory McKurth, Daniel Miller, Bruce Hinz, and Christopher Austin; Highway Superintendent Kevin Peet; and Town Clerk Sondra MacEwan.

MINUTES

Councilman Hinz moved that the Minutes of the August 14, 2013 meeting of the Board be accepted as presented. Councilman Austin seconded. 5 ayes, 0 noes.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Bernard Fancher was the sole community member present, and he had several questions for the Board concerning the water and sewer systems, tax rates, and community development.

Major points revealed under his questioning about the water and sewer systems were (1) the Hume water system still has old water mains that were not replaced during the prior water improvement projects; (2) the Hume system will be maintained while water is purchased from the Houghton system; (3) there is no basis for the rumor that the Hume system's water is unsafe and it is in fact monitored and tested regularly; (4) any plans for combined water or sewer authorities, either between Towns or under the County umbrella, are in the formative stage and will require much more study including detailed cost analyses; and (5) any future expansion or major improvement to either water or sewer will depend on the availability of funding.

When addressing Mr. Fancher's questions about the tax rates, the Board pointed out that the major driver behind the tax rates are retirement and insurance costs.

Mr. Fancher pressed the point that the development of the area, including growth of business, hinged on the presentation of the Town's assets and education of the public. He felt that this area could be addressed without cost but to the benefit of the community.

PARKS & PROJECTS

Councilman Austin moved that the purchase of a replacement infant swing seat be authorized, and Councilman McKurth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Supervisor Ricketts told the Board that proposals for the trees to be planted to complete the Cold Creek project had been received.

Councilman Austin moved that the quote of \$160.00 per tree be accepted. Councilman Hinz seconded. 5 ayes, 0 noes.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Ricketts moved that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss employment issues. Councilman Austin seconded. 5 ayes, 0 noes. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:13 PM and returned to Open Meeting at 8:45 PM.

WATER AND WASTE WATER MAINTENANCE WORKER

Councilman Miller moved that Scott Willgens be appointed to the position of Water and Waste Water Maintenance Worker. The employment strictures were: a 6-month probationary period at the pay rate of \$16.00 per hour; the allowance of 40 hours vacation time after 6 months, 80 hours after 1 year; sick time allowance of up to 8 hours per month not to exceed 48 hours per year; 10% employee payment of health insurance or the option of the "buy out"; after the 6 month period, and upon favorable Board review, if the class D water license has been obtained, the pay rate will rise to \$17.66 per hour. Councilman Austin seconded. 5 ayes, 0 noes.

The Board expressed their appreciation for all the candidates who applied for this position.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Austin moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Supervisor Ricketts seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Hume Town Board will be September 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Town of Hume Museum.

Respectfully submitted,

Sondra MacEwan,
Town Clerk