

9/5/14

Notes from the Hamilton Town Council's August Meeting

The Hamilton Town Council's August meeting began with a presentation by Daniel Farrow of Cwynar & Co, who prepared the 2013 audit of the town's finances. Farrow reported that the Town's finances are in good order thanks to the work of our bookkeeper Donna LaMarco and Town Clerk Sue Reymers. Having the books audited regularly is considered a best practice for maintaining orderly, accurate, and transparent finances. This is also the season to start work on the 2015 budget. A public meeting to review the draft budget will be held on October 1 in the Town office at 7pm.

Our Town Garage was visited by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), which identified a problem with run-off from our salt pile. With the guidance of the DEC and planning assistance from the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District, the pile will be moved and safeguards put in place to correct the problem now. The Town plans to build a shed to securely house the salt next year.

Sue Reymers, Town Clerk, reported that Colgate intern Brendan Walsh completed his Upstate Institute internship in the town office. Our thanks to Brendan who worked on our records retention project, processing records, creating a historical display for the front window, and a timeline which is now on the Town website.

The need for more local housing continues to be an important issue for the Town of Hamilton. Councilor Darby has been meeting with the Partnership for Community Development (PCD) to discuss potential projects that could benefit our town, notably affordable housing for seniors, young professionals and families.

After the July 3rd wind storm which damaged property and roads and left many residents without power for 72 hours, Town council members held a meeting with representatives of our local Fire Departments, Highway DPW's, and NYSEG to assess our community's response to the event. All agreed that the community needs to create an emergency response plan to prepare for future events. The Town is looking into using the County emergency radio system to better aid our first responders in dealing with future crises.

The Hamilton Town Council meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Town of Hamilton office in the Village of Hamilton at 7pm. Our next regular meeting is Thursday, September 11 at 7pm. We invite and encourage you to join us. For more info visit <http://www.townofhamiltonny.org/>

submitted by Chris Rossi for Hamilton Town Council