

Notes from the March 2015 Hamilton Town Council Meeting

The Hamilton Town Council held its March meeting at the Village Court House. Doc Hayes provided news from Earlville about upcoming openings on their Village Board. Doc is stepping down from his position on the board after 8 years of service to the community, and he was thanked for his good work. Earlville has also passed a new animal law, which allows for keeping a wider range of animals in the Village, subject to permit.

Our highway crew has been busy with the non-stop winter weather. In addition to plowing and sanding Town roads, county roads have been plowed, which earns revenue for our Town. In preparation for building a new salt shed and repairs to the garage, the Town is soliciting proposals for an engineering evaluation of the site. Former highway superintendent Carl Harris was also able to provide helpful information about the history of the site. The Town is working with the County to evaluate the Williams Road bridge to determine if repairs are necessary. Assistance with funding both projects will be sought from the County as well as our State representatives.

The Town Council discussed upcoming referendums on the Ambulance District, with the Town's vote scheduled for April 28. There have been questions over who votes in which referendum, a process that is dictated by state law. For the Town's referendum, property owners in the Town of Hamilton, including those that own property in the villages of Hamilton and Earlville, can vote providing their property is within the Town's boundaries. If you receive a property tax bill from the Town of Hamilton you will be eligible to vote. The Town Council will provide more details on where and when to vote as the date approaches.

The Ambulance Service Community Working Group (ASCWG) had its second meeting in March. The group is in consensus that ambulance service is vital to our community, that 24/7-service is needed, and that some tax money will be needed to secure that level of service. A number of items were identified for further study, and committee members, with help from SOMAC and Colgate students, are researching those points for discussion at the April meeting.

Progress is being made by the Deer Management Task Force. Council member Darby reported that Police Chief Gifford would coordinate the Village of Hamilton cull, which is proposed to take place in September, before hunting season.

The Hamilton Town Council meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Town of Hamilton office at 16 Broad Street in the Village of Hamilton at 7 pm. Our next regular meeting is Thursday, April 9 at 7 pm. We invite and encourage you to join us. For more info visit www.TownofHamiltonNY.org.

submitted by Chris Rossi for Hamilton Town Council