

May 14, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Harpersfield held a Board meeting on May 14, 2025

Present were: Lisa M. Driscoll, Supervisor  
Erik Reeve, Councilmember  
Donna VanSickell, Councilmember  
Dwayne C. Hill, Councilmember

Also Present: Russell Hatch, Supt. Highways  
Heidi R. Stevens, Town Clerk  
Thomas Giaguzzi, Deputy Town Clerk  
Alyson Phillips, Town Attorney

Others Present: Liz Page, Editor of The Mountain Eagle  
Henry Browning  
Thomas VanSickell  
Annette Maria  
Gloria Anderson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Lisa M. Driscoll. Supervisor Driscoll led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Driscoll asked the Board if there were any questions, comments or concerns regarding the minutes from April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board had no questions, comments or concerns.

A motion to accept the minutes from April 9, 2025, was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Donna VanSickell. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Lisa M. Driscoll asked if there was any correspondence. There was no correspondence.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Courts decision for the permissive referendum. The permissive referendum was declared void. There was no additional evidence provided that any of the disputed signatories are eligible voters as required. Verizon constructions will begin soon.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is a resolution for the post office. Do to lack of employees the post office is closing randomly and no mail is being delivered to the businesses and residence of Harpersfield. A discussion was had.

TOWN OF HARPERSFIELD

RESOLUTION NO. 006 OF THE YEAR 2025

Councilmember Dwayne C. Hill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

TITLE: TOWN OF HARPERSFIELD POST OFFICE CLOSURES

WHEREAS, the Town of Harpersfield, a municipality in Delaware County, New York has a Post Office which is open 8-12 from Monday to Friday and 9-12:15 on Saturdays with a Postal employee. Due to lack of personnel, the Post Office has informed its customers that they will not be open their regular hours.

WHEREAS, the citizens and the businesses in the Town will have very limited hours to get their mail from the Post Office.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Harpersfield finds this un-acceptable due to the extremely limited and random times and dates this Post Office will be open. Businesses using this Post Office will have limited accessibility to their mail. This will inhibit their business dealing and potentially cause loss of revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Harpersfield requests the Post Master to provide personnel to the Post Office in Harpersfield for the regular 8am-12pm hours Monday through Friday and 9am-12:15 on Saturday.

WHEREUPON, Councilmember Donna VanSickle seconded the motion and Resolution No. 006 of the Year 2025 was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

Supervisor	Lisa M. Driscoll	Aye.
Councilmember	Pat Funk	Absent.
Councilmember	Donna VanSickle	Aye.
Councilmember	Erik R. Reeve	Aye.
Councilmember	Dwayne C. Hill	Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Aflac insurance meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am and May 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. This is a supplemental insurance which the Town would need at least 2 people to enroll for them to offer it to us. There are about 7 or 8 different groups that can be enrolled in. These options cost anywhere from \$6 to about \$18 depending on how many people in your family that you enroll or which plan you choose. There is a folder with information at the Town Hall for any employee that might be interested and cannot make it to the meeting. The Town will not be paying anything into AFLAC. Each employee is responsible for the cost of this insurance. If the employee leaves the Town of Harpersfield the insurance will remain with that employee and instead of being deducted from their paycheck, they would receive a bill from AFLAC. The rates would stay the same.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is C&D over at the Transfer Station. C&D has increased from \$95/ton to \$115/ton. The Town will see that increase in the C&D costs.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that the Town received paperwork for the Youth Program through Delaware County. That has been filled out given back to the County. The Town of Harpersfield would like to get one youth for the Transfer Station and one to help at the Town Hall. We have signed the contract with the new computer software program iWorQ and are looking to get some help inputting the information into that system this summer. Supervisor Driscoll is asking if anyone knows of a youth that is interested working at the Town for the summer. Please let the Town Clerk or Town Supervisor know.

Supervisor Lisa M. Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the cameras for the Town Hall. The Town of Harpersfield has received 2 quotes. Sentry Alarms quote is for \$8850.00 that does not include the panic buttons. ZS Security quote is for \$6481.67 that does include the panic buttons. ZS Security is far under the quote for Sentry Alarms.

Councilmember Erik Reeve asked if they would make an annual visit to make sure the cameras and the panic buttons are working properly. Supervisor Driscoll answered yes, also if there is a problem he is local, so he comes right to the Town as needed. A discussion was had.

A motion to accept the quote from Zs Security was made by Donna VanSickell and seconded by Erik Reeve. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the training and processes that the Town has been working on. This training is to be reported completed to the Town Clerk by June 30, 2025.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the VA building update. Supervisor Driscoll met with Ken Cole, Bill Nicholson, and Art Sprauge. They spoke about who owns the VA building, which is Stamford VA LLC. The VA and American Legion can use the

building. If the VA and American Legion pull out, then the building would be returned to Harpersfield. The VA is still in the process of bringing the plans to the Town Board as to what they are looking to do. The VA at this time still needs to speak with an attorney that would advise them on how to proceed.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is a records book found in the vault dated in the 1800's. This book is the school records from 1819 – 1876. Deputy Clerk Tom Giaguzzi who is also the Town of Harpersfield Historian, has asked if the Town of Harpersfield would like to donate the records book to the Harpersfield Historical Society.

Councilmember Erik Reeve asked if this book could be digitized. Deputy Clerk Thomas Giaguzzi answered that would be a great idea. He is going to bring it up at the Historical Society next meeting.

Supervisor Driscoll mentioned that maybe the Historical Society would give the Town Hall a couple of pictures that could be displayed in the Town Hall. A discussion was had.

A motion to donate the school records book to the Harpersfield Historical Society was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Donna Van Sickell. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll asked the councilmembers if anyone had items to address with the Board. There was nothing to address with the Board.

Russ Hatch Highway Superintendent informed the Board that he spoke with the truck company last week. He was informed that the truck body should be delivered to the truck company next month. Russ is still not sure when the truck will be delivered to the Town Highway Garage.

Sealing of the Town surfaces Russ is looking at July to start. The Highway department is working on Middlebrook Road, Wilcox Road and will start Colonel Harper soon getting them ready for the sealing.

Russ informed the Board that there was some equipment that was sold at auction. The 35mm camera was sold for \$25, demolition saw from the Highway department went for \$310, 2 steel weedwhackers \$270, 3 chainsaws \$140, 1990 dump truck \$4,650, 1998 Volvo all wheel drive plow truck \$200, 1999 Ford F350 \$3,550. The copy machines and fax didn't sell. The total that the Town received is \$14,145. The only cost that will come from all the sales is for the photographs that were taken for the items to be listed at auction. That cost is \$50.

Russ informed the Board that after selling the trucks at auction the Town will still have 2 back up trucks available. A discussion was had.

A motion to accept the offers made at auction was made by Erik Reeve and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

A motion to throw out the items that did not get bought at auction was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Donna VanSickell. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll wanted to inform the Board that the Suit – Kote quote that is in their folders the first page is in the amount of \$16416.01. This quote is for the Transfer Station, the Post Office, the upper and lower parking lots of the Town Hall and in front of the Highway garage to be seal coated.

Supervisor Driscoll asked Russ if we will need another quote for this. Russ answered “no we are going to go off Delaware County’s bidding. “

The Town has received \$50,000 dollars from the agreement with the solar company. That money is being used for the sealing of the parking lots, the new software program iWorQ, and the painting of the inside of the Town Hall that is starting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May.

A motion was made to seal the parking lots was made by Donna VanSickell and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll would like to have the stairs looked at and replaced by the Town Hall. They are crumbling and becoming very unsafe.

Councilmember Erik Reeve noticed the retaining wall out front of the Town Hall is starting to crumble and break off. Russ told the Board that the salt in the winter does that to the rock.

Supervisor Driscoll is trying to wait on that for now. That will be a large expense. The whole wall will need to be removed and replaced. Russ said that they have done some of the smaller sections in the past. The bigger sections will entail a lot more work.

Tax Collector Heidi Stevens presented the monthly Tax Collectors report to the Board. The Town received \$90.73 in bank interest and \$5192.05 in penalties for the month of April.

The Town Clerks report for the month of April was issued to the Board. The amount that the Town received was \$902.50.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Abstract and Vouchers. There are a couple of things that need to be pointed out to the Board. There are 2 vouchers for Cook Brothers, one was for a returned part in March of 2024. The Town did not pay for the part on the invoice in March of 2024, then Cook Brothers gave the credit for the returned part in April of 2024. This was brought to the Town Clerk’s attention. After going through all the vouchers from 2023 and 2024 with Cook Brothers. The check is in the amount of \$1,171.00. The other voucher is for \$9,718.32 this is for a transmission. There is a core charge of a little more than \$3,000 to make sure that they get the transmission back. The Town will be refunded that amount once they get the transmission back.

The NBT insurance was paid. That was \$42,978.99 and it came out from the General account. The software iWorQ was paid the process has been started with them. Tripps Electric came and fixed some electrical issues at the Highway garage and lights at the Town Hall. Also, the Transfer Station C&D was paid in the amount of \$3,359.20.

Councilmember Dwayne C. Hill asked if C&D is a lot cheaper than it used to be. Supervisor Driscoll answered yes, the Town has seen a decrease in the C&D since the Town Started the new sticker process at the Transfer Station. A discussion was had.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Profits and Losses. Supervisor Driscoll apologized to the Board about the way the Profits and Losses printed out with the expenditures on one page and the budget on another page. She is going to get the Towns accountant to reformat it, so it is all on one page and easier to look at for them. Supervisor Driscoll told the Board that the Town is doing well. After reviewing it she did not find anything that was alarming to her. Supervisor Driscoll asked the Board if there were any questions about the Profits and Losses. There were no questions.

A motion was made to pay the bills that have been presented to the Board was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Erik Reeve. All voting Aye.

A motion was made to go into executive session to receive advice and council from the Town Attorney by Erik Reeve and seconded by Donna Van Sickell. All voting Aye.

A motion was made to come out of executive session was made by Erik Reeve and seconded by Dwayne Van Sickell.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Donna VanSickell and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Wednesday, June 11,2025 at 7:00pm.

