Town of Hamden Town Board Meeting of September 4, 2024

Superintendent Tweedie reported that paving on Ed Wright and Gregory Hollow Road is done. Rennie Road repair cost is estimated to be \$3,360. The two remaining 2018 FEMA projects on East Terry Clove should be done by the end of September. New garage doors are needed in the Highway Garage. Next year equipment costs should be for a new Chipper and a new Mower and Tractor.

The board approved a resolution to get prices on 5 new overhead doors in the highway garage. They would be reimbursed by CHIPS funding.

Two bids were reviewed for the 2018 FEMA projects and bids from LaFever Excavating were accepted at \$19,500 for both sites combined.

Wastewater in Hamden saw 356,210 gallons processed for the month of August.

The bicentennial committee next meeting will be September 26th at 6:30 pm.

The Water Districts held their annual meetings in August and WD #1 in Hamden elected Mike Yeary and WD #2 in DeLancey elected Chris Bodo to new three-year terms.

The Town received \$9,980 in funding from NYSERDA for heat pumps in the Schoolhouse Museum and the Highway Garage office. The Town received three bids and awarded those heat pump projects to EcoHeat from Meridale for \$9,840.

The board authorized a grant application to O'Connor Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 for the 2025 Town of Hamden Bicentennial celebration. It will match costs associated with baseball uniforms, parade, recipe and history books, etc.

Budget schedules were handed out and departmental budgets are due back to the Supervisor by September 20th.

Not knowing if we will exceed the tax cap, the board passed a resolution to override the tax cap levy for 2025. If not exceeded, we will not proceed with this resolution in October.

The dog control law amendments were talked about and tabled until our Dog Control Officer can attend our October meeting.

The Delaware County Farm Bureau would like to use our town hall in October and the board waived the use fee for them.

Our Assessor Clerk Taggart has signed up for exams in November on Fundamentals of Assessment Administration and in January on Data Collection. These are required for her to attain the goal of Town Assessor next year.

Denise VanDusen was reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review for a six-year term.

Delaware County Board of Supervisors Meeting of September 25, 2024

The board passed a resolution accepting \$35,329 in funding from the State Legal Aid Indigent Legal Services for reimbursement of increased costs due to a mandated rate change in April of 2023.

A budget amendment was approved accepting the amount of \$62,943 from the State Aid Opioid Revenue fund for disbursement of \$2,400 to ADA for a fall festival, \$13,296 for 13 sets of Stop DWI Impairment Goggles, and \$47,247 to the Stamford Mental Health Wellness Center.

The board approved \$4,079 to be spent from the ARP fund for the Village of Delhi Firing Range. The firing range is used by local police departments as well as private residents. There is now \$8,500 left in the ARP fund for allocation by the end of this year.

A budget amendment was approved in the amount of \$55,037 in a grant from the State LGRMIF fund to the County Clerk for digitizing records. This funding is in addition to the funding provided by the ARP committee to the County Clerk for the same purpose.

The board approved a resolution as a budget amendment for a grant from the Center for Tech and Civic Life to support the Board of Elections nonpartisan work on planning and operationalizing reliability and for a secure election administration in 2024. The amount granted to the County is \$50,000.

A resolution was approved to take \$61,507 from the Contingency account and transfer it to the Professional Fees Psychiatric fund for Mental Health. This is for inmates incapacitated to participate in their criminal defense proceedings and require care from a NYS Psychiatric Hospital. This used to be funded at 50% by the State and was eliminated and now is a total tax dollar!

A resolution was approved as a budget amendment through the grant from the NYSDOH for \$45,107 to the County Public Health Department. This funding is to be used to support hiring, making upgrades to the workplace, provide public health training, and to provide support services to the public health department.

Two resolutions were approved in Mental Health for a scanner and two printers for \$962 and \$945 respectively. These were from grant funds from Rehabilitative Support Services and Federal Salary Share funds respectively.

The board approved another budget amendment in the amount of \$23,400 in Mental Health, from the NYS Office of Mental Health for support services for outpatient mental health clinics.

A resolution was approved in the amount of \$75,961 from the Hotel Occupancy tax fund for professional services, namely to contract with an agency known as Brandman Agency for assistance in tourism marketing. They charge \$5,714 monthly.

The board passed a resolution for the Youth Bureau for \$31,883 for additional youth programs in this year's budget. The funding comes from the NYS Youth program and is more specifically for sports programs. This year, the Hancock and South Kortright Little League and the Delhi Dance Studio was recipients of this extra funding.

A resolution was approved in the amount of \$80,000 from the O'Connor Foundation for the engineering fees and structure stabilization expenses for the Fleischmann's Freight House. This is an old historic railroad depot and needs major attention.

A resolution was approved to create the traffic diversion program through the District Attorney's Office. The original resolution was amended to include the revenue split of 80/20 Towns and Villages/County. After much discussion, the resolution passed by 2 votes.

A not prefiled resolution was approved to allow the new tax collection software annual maintenance agreement at a cost of \$29,019 per year. I personally was not happy with this resolution as we (ARP committee) were not told by the County Treasurer that this exorbitant fee was going to be charged when we approved buying the software at \$200,000!

Respectfully submitted by Wayne Marshfield