

REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS

October 5, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in the Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, New York on October 5, 2009.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 7:00 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio  
Trustee Harold Brown  
Trustee James DiSalvo  
Trustee June L. Gunza  
Trustee Joseph McCormick

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor  
Street Superintendent, Gary Boyce  
Code Enforcement Officer, Tim Doherty  
Police Chief, Peter Miller  
Fire Captain, John Rush  
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt  
Residents- Jean Sharp- 11 Homestead Ave, Laura Milsom – 105 Center St, Mr. Mehta-1610 Rt9W (Pointer's Echo Motel), Frank Lilos – Rt 9W

A motion was made by Trustee Gunza to approve the below listed minutes as written:

a) Regular Meeting – September 21, 2009

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

A public hearing, as duly advertised, was opened at 7:01 pm, for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider adoption of Introductory Local Law entitled "Regulation of Village Parks". Mayor D'Onofrio presented for the record the Notice of Hearing and Affidavit of Publication.

The Mayor commented that this law will regulate the hours of all the parks in the Village to be from dawn to dusk. Chief Peter Miller commented that this was a good law and he was in favor of it. The Mayor pointed out that if the law is adopted, signs will be posted with the hours of regulation.

No further comments being made or questions being asked, Mayor D'Onofrio motioned to close the public hearing on Introductory Local Law "Regulation of Village Parks".

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The public hearing closed at 7:03pm

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls  
Resolution of Adoption  
Local Law No. 7-2009  
"Regulation of Village Parks"

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and on a roll call vote the results which follow:

5 Ayes   0 Nays

motion carried. (A true and complete copy of the resolution is appended to these minutes)

A public hearing, as duly advertised, was opened at 7:05 pm, for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider adoption of Introductory Local Law entitled "State Route 9W Rezoning and Amendment to the Table of Use Regulation". Mayor D'Onofrio presented for the record the Notice of Hearing and Affidavit of Publication. The Mayor also declared this a Type II Unlisted Action under SEQR and determined not to have a significant effect on the environment. The Mayor also pointed out to those in attendance the map of the current zone and the proposed zone that were posted in the room.

Jean Sharp asked for clarification on the ownership of the properties, whether it was one owner for the area. The Mayor responded that four separate properties are affected and they have different owners. No other questions were asked or comments heard. The Mayor kept the hearing open until the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting at which the Board is looking to adopt this law, after the Board has received comments from the Orange County Planning Board.

The Mayor reported that the Village Engineer was going to submit a grant application to help with repairs to the Village dams. He needed Board approval for this.

Trustee McCormick motioned the following:

Resolution  
Village Of Highland Falls  
Board of Trustees

Water Quality Improvement Projects  
and Nonagricultural Nonpoint Source Projects  
Municipal Resolution

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and duly put to a roll call vote, the result which follows:

5 Ayes      0 Noes

The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted. ( A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes.)

The Fire Department report for September 2009 was presented to the Board for review.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request of the Department to take engine #429 to the training center on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> for Live Fire Training and also on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> for Bailout Training.

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

The Code Enforcement Report for September 2009 was presented to the Board for review.

The Community Development Report for September 2009 was presented to the Board for review. Mayor D'Onofrio thanked Community Development Director, Eileen Koppenal for working with HUD and allowing monies from the Main Street Façade Grant to make the necessary repairs to the Gazebo in Memorial Park.

The Police Department Report for September 2009 was presented to the Board for review. The Chief pointed out some community outreach the department is involved with currently includes a coat drive and food drive.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution  
Village Of Highland Falls  
Board of Trustees  
2009-2010 Budget Amendment

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and duly put to a roll call vote, the result which follows:

5 Ayes      0 Noes

The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted. ( A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes.)

A motion was made by Trustee Gunza to approve the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees  
Resolution  
Requesting Real Property Tax Exemption of the  
Village Owned Water Supply Property

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and on a roll call vote, the results which follow,

5 Ayes      0 Noes

The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted. ( A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes.)

A motion was made by Trustee Gunza to approve the request from Highlands Chamber of Commerce to use Ladycliff Park and the South End of municipal lot#2 on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:00noon to 5pm to facilitate the Hudson Highlands Holiday Event, provided the Chamber provides the necessary insurance and license agreement to the Village Clerk prior to the event.

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the needed repairs in the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Preliminary figures are showing over \$140,000, in materials and labor costs. The Village Treasurer had recommended to the Board that all the repairs be bonded under one project. He would not like the Board to use surplus. The Mayor asked the Board for direction on how to proceed.

Trustee McCormick and Trustee DiSalvo were inclined to use surplus funds to offset these expenses and bond only what the surplus could not cover. Trustee McCormick also wanted to know how long these repairs were needed to be done. The Mayor responded that they were just brought to the Boards attention.

Trustee Gunza was inclined to agree with the Treasurer's recommendation. Trustee McCormick suggested that the Board go back to the engineer and see if the estimated numbers have changed and if so, by how much.

The Mayor set a meeting date of October 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am for the Village Board to meet with the Village Treasurer and discuss his recommendations before proceeding with any decision.

A motion was made by Trustee DiSalvo to approve the bills and claims for \$111,218.02 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$32,807.19
Community Development	\$56,430.35
Water Fund	\$ 2,963.72
Sewer Fund	\$ 6,927.04
Capital Fund	\$12,089.72

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Trustee McCormick asked where the Village was on creation of the employee handbook and also wants the Board to look at light duty options for employees coming back from worker compensation injuries. The Mayor responded that the Village Clerk is still looking at handbook options and he agrees to discuss light duty options at some time.

Laura Milsom, 105 Center Street, addressed the Board with various concerns. She was following up from a previous Board meeting she attended to see what if any progress had been made with some of her requests. She would like to see the Village install speed humps to calm traffic on the side streets. She would like to see more drug-free zone signs around the schools, and signs that post litter laws and fine violations. She presented an article to the Board from a newspaper in Tucson that had a local law that held parents responsible for their children's actions. She would like to see the police bike patrol resurrected and asked about the current strength of our police department. She would also like to start a neighborhood watch group.

The Mayor answered any concerns he could and said all others would be looked at. Money plays a big factor in the kinds of services that can be offered. He informed her that our current Police Department is down three full time officers. He also suggested she speak with the Chief about the neighborhood watch program.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to enter executive session to discuss Police personnel matters with Chief Miller. The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 7:55pm.

The Regular meeting reconvened at 8:20pm.

Trustee McCormick motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm.

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Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk