

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

March 1, 2017

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, New York on March 1, 2017.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold the fourth budget workshop for FY 2017-2018.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:06 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn
Trustee Brian Aylward
Trustee Robert Mellon
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Members absent were:

Trustee Anthony Farina

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta
Police Chief, Robert Kwiatkowski
Dispatcher, Tanya Allen
Chairman of Police Commission, Daniel Ricci
Fire Chief, Erik Smith
Street Superintendent, Gary Boyce
Community member, James Ramus, 31 Liberty St.

Police Chief Kwiatkowski and Dispatcher Allen presented the requested Police and Communications budget for FY 2017-2018.

Discussion was held on the Entergy grant and Chief explained that there is no guarantee that the grant will continue or the funding will remain at the levels from the past. Chief explained that the salary numbers presented do not include benefits. Discussion on Communications equipment included the need for a new server and in Police equipment the need for one license plate reader. Chief informed the Board that the service contract for the current reader has been expired since 2015 and that we're three software updates behind. Chief reported that there is a need for a new vehicle because three cars have over 100,000 miles logged. Chief also noted that ammunition costs are increased because there is a need for the officers to qualify twice this year. Chief thanked Dispatcher Allen for all her help in getting the budget prepared.

Mayor Flynn commented that he would like a new car to be a priority. Discussion was held on the Police Department looking for a system to keep track of the repairs of vehicles.

The Board thanked the Chief and Dispatcher Allen for the work they put into the budget preparation.

Fire Chief Erik Smith presented the Fire Department requested budget for FY 2017-2018. Chief Smith explained that one of his biggest concerns this year is to upgrade the SCBA's. Chief Smith explained that this was brought to the Boards attention a couple years ago and it is time to use the reserve fund that was set up for this purpose and the amount requested in this budget to provide the necessary upgrade of the SCBA's. Chief Smith explained that the department has been looking for grant opportunities to help but it is necessary to move forward with this project using the funds that were set aside and the requested funds.

Mayor Flynn commented that he would like to see the SCBA project be a priority.

Chief Smith justified every line item in the requested budget. Chief Smith also reminded the Board that there has not been any trucks replaced since 2000 and the reality is that the Board should be looking to purchase a new truck within a couple years.

The Board thanked Chief Smith for the time and effort put into this budget preparation.

Treasurer Magryta recommended to the Board that they continue to add to the reserve funds of all the departments. Mr. Magryta commented that debt is going in the right direction and this also helps with the bond rating of the Village. Mr. Magryta reported that he would be accelerating the bond payments in water and sewer because these funds have been doing well to increase their surplus number. Mr. Magryta reminded the Board that there will be a meeting following the regular Board meeting on Monday the 6th and he will have an updated requested budget for the Board. The Treasurer asked to not schedule a meeting on March 13th as it was to be scheduled only if necessary and instead meet on Wednesday the 15th to finalize the tentative budget which needs to be turned into the

Village Clerk by March 20th. The Village Board agreed to not schedule a meeting on March 13th and to schedule a meeting on Wednesday March 15th.

Treasurer Magryta explained to the Board that because the Board has been fiscally responsible there will probably be around \$200-\$250 thousand dollars of fund balance available to be used in the budget.

Trustee Aylward motioned to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 9:11P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

The Special meeting reconvened at 10:00P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Collaborative Concepts pledging Village Police and DPW support to the 2017 Artwalk to be held May through November this year.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 10:02P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk