

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

November 19, 2012

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 November 19, 2012.

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 Patrick Flynn (7:16pm)
Trustee Joseph McCormick

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Attorney, Ben Gailey, esq. (Jacobowitz & Gubits, LLP)
Police Chief, Ken Scott
Fire Chief, John Rush
Building Inspector, John Hager (7:40pm)
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 10 Village Residents

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the below listed minutes as written:

a) Regular Meeting – November 5, 2012

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

The Fire Department Report for October 2012 was presented to the Board for review.

Trustee McCormick motioned to approve the request from the Fire Chief to take Engine #429 to a Live Burn Training at the Orange County Fire Training Center on December 4, 2012.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Building Department Report for October 2012 was presented to the Board for review.

Trustee McCormick motioned to suspend the use of parking meters from December 1, 2012 to January 2, 2013.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve change order request #1 for \$7,535.00, from Cal Mart Enterprises, Inc. for additional asphalt for the Eagle Valley Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

Trustee Brown motioned to approve the low quote of \$5,900.00 from Koester Associates for the insulation of sewer and water pipes running along Webb Lane Bridge, as recommended by the Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, John Jones.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee McCormick motioned that Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio has the authority to sign any and all contracts or paperwork for the SLETPP FY 11 grant.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Village Attorney updated the Village Board on the question of speed bumps in the Village. He commented that he and Chief Scott are looking into a 2003 State Attorney General opinion that allows for speed bumps under certain provisions. Discussion was tabled until the next Village Board meeting.

A Public Hearing, as duly advertised, was opened at 7:12p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider adoption of Introductory Local Law entitled "Amendment to the Property Maintenance Law" Mayor D'Onofrio reported that the original Notice of Hearing, Affidavit of Posting, Affidavit of Publication have been presented before the Board and are ordered to be filed. The Mayor explained that this law will enforce the maintenance of abandoned and foreclosed property and increases the fines for violation of the provisions of the Property Maintenance Law. The Mayor commented that this amendment came about because more and more properties are being foreclosed on or abandoned and it is becoming difficult to get property owners to cooperate with property maintenance.

Trustee McCormick fielded a question on violations and time frames given to make corrections. The Village Attorney fielded a question on the collection of fines. All comments heard and questions answered, the public hearing was closed at 7:15p.m.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls
Resolution of Adoption
Local Law No.5 of 2012
Amendment to the Property Maintenance Law

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

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Flynn)

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls
Resolution Introducing Local Law
And Providing for Public Notice and Hearing
Waterfront Overlay District

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 this resolution is appended to these minutes)

Trustee Brown motioned to approve the bills and claims for \$36,224.99 from the following listed funds:

FY 12-13	General Fund	\$16,678.27
	Water Fund	\$ 1,485.40
	Sewer Fund	\$14,154.82
	Capital Fund	\$ 3,906.50

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

Public Comment:

Lynda Bashoor, Drew Ave. asked the Board about different events she has planned through the Cultural Coalition Organization and what the procedures are regarding Village property. The Mayor explained that an Event Form, available in the office or from the website should be filled out and returned to the Clerk for submission to the Board.

Gus Koutsourades -156 Main St- asked the status on televising meetings. He was told the Clerk is waiting on a meeting with Time Warner to test the equipment. Mr. Koutsourades asked about the status of the Local Development Corp (LDC) as a non-profit organization. The Mayor responded the LDC is not part of the Village government. He also responded that he believes that the LDC is filing paperwork with the State to re-establish the group. Mr. Koutsourades asked if the Village has received a reply back from the State regarding our response to the audit report. The Mayor answered that the Village has not received any letter back from the State regarding the Village response to the audit.

Board comments:

Mayor D'Onofrio thanked the DPW for turning scrap metal into revenue, the Police Chief for working on getting the snow regulations out to the public and the O'Neill football team on a successful season. The Mayor reported that the Orange County Community Development office will be sending out implementation packets in January regarding the \$200,000 grant that was received for the acquisition of the K of C Hall. He reported that a recent EFC Bond was refinanced and the savings would be approximately \$70,000. Mayor D'Onofrio commented that he had sent a letter to the Attorney General's office regarding the possible price gouging at the local Shell station before and after Hurricane Sandy. The Mayor reported he will meet next week with Town Supervisor Livsey and representatives from our State Senator's office regarding the Transfer Station on West Point. He updated the Board that the investigation of the Village participating in E911 is continuing and Chief Scott will be meeting with Mr. Wierzbicki next week to check out the radio signals. Finally, Mayor D'Onofrio commented that the Building Department has sent violation notices to the Christiana Hotel and the owner has been cooperative with the Building Inspector in working on these violations.

Trustee McCormick reported that he sent some information to the Fire Department regarding violations found at the Christiana Hotel to make them aware in case there are any calls to that location and also informed them of the status of 4 Wyandotte Ave. as uninhabitable.

He also reported on some concerns at Jim's Pond Dam and that the water department is waiting on quotes for repairing the boiler at the plant. Trustee McCormick would also like the Village to look at the dam in the Highland Brook on Webb Lane and the ownership of the dam.

Trustee Flynn commented that he would like to make sure more local vendors are contacted for any projects in the Village. He also commented that he would like to ensure that the K of C Hall would be for seniors only, that it is not big enough to hold other groups as well. Trustee Flynn commented that the Board should be made aware of any deal on the Transfer Station before it is approved.

The Mayor responded that it is the Town who makes any deals regarding the Transfer Station. The Mayor also responded that local contractors are given opportunities to bid on local jobs.

Trustee DiSalvo reported that leaves are being picked up by the DPW, the invitation to bid for the dump truck is out this week and a truck in the DPW is currently under repair. Trustee DiSalvo commented that it is possible another camera could be installed with the use of grant money and that he and Chief Scott are looking at possible locations.

Trustee Brown updated the Board on the situation at 16 Schneider Ave and that access to the building has been hindered with locks. The Village Attorney commented that a court order would be necessary for the Village to gain access. No Board action was taken at this time.

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

The meeting closed at 8:05p.m.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk