

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

February 28, 2012

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 February 28, 2012.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 6:00 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio
Trustee James DiSalvo
Trustee Richard Parry

Members absent were:

Trustee Harold Brown
Trustee Joseph McCormick

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Treasurer, Ralph J. Walters
Chief WWTP Operator, John Jones
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus (6:30pm)
Village Resident - Ray Deveraux- 48 Ondaora Pkwy, West Point Motel Owner- Gus Koutsourades – 156 Main Street

Chief WWTP Operator, John Jones presented his 2012-13 Requested Budget to the Board for review. The Village Treasurer reminded the Board that a new vehicle for the sewer plant will be arriving shortly to replace the vehicle totaled in the October snowstorm. The vehicle is being purchased using the reserve funds plus the insurance recovery from the totaled vehicle. Mr. Walters pointed out that Mr. Jones has requested \$5000, in his 2012-2013 budget for a plow for the new vehicle, so he has put only \$5,000 into the vehicle reserve fund for the 2012-2013 budget. Mr. Walters pointed out that the salary line and health insurance lines have decreased slightly because of changes in the personnel in the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr Walters also pointed out to Mr. Jones that he increased his contractual line by \$1500 to account for the clothing allowance for each employee covered under the bargaining unit contracts. Mr. Walters asked Mr. Jones if he thinks the chemical costs are reasonable and will stay close to last year costs. Mr. Jones responded that he believes they will remain constant.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Jones for doing a good job since becoming the Department Head with both the work being performed and his supervision of the employees. The Mayor asked Mr. Jones to look again at the estimate used for fuel costs and to see how much it will cost to do semi-annual inspections of the sprinkler system, as recommended by the Village insurance carrier.

The Village Board thanked Mr. Jones for his work on this budget. No action taken.

The Treasurer reviewed the requested budget of the General Fund codes for the Treasurer, Clerk, and Trustees with the Board. Mr. Walters reported that based on review of expenses to date for the Clerk and Treasurer lines, that he has increased the contractual line of each department by \$1,000 to keep pace with rising costs.

Mr. Walters explained to the Board that it is possible the Village may have to pay for an independent audit of the Section 8 program this year. He explained that previously Mastrianni, Inc., the program administrator, would fund this audit with monies received by HUD to administer the program. Upon talking with Mr. Gallucci from Mastrianni, Inc., this funding may be eliminated. Mr. Walters told the Board he hopes to have an answer before the budget is finalized.

Mr. Walters mentioned that he did include 2% increases in the salary lines for all full time and part time employees. Mr. Walters commented that there was no increase to the Mayor and Trustee salary lines. Mr. Walters reviewed the BANs and payment schedules.

The Village Board thanked Mr. Walters. No action taken.

James Ramus, Chairman of the Planning Board, presented the 2012-2013 Requested Budget for the Planning Board.. Mr. Ramus pointed out that this requested budget is less than last years adopted budget. He commented that most of the expense is for attorney and engineer expenses that are not applicant reimbursable. Mr. Ramus also pointed out a slight increase for training.

The Village Board thanked Mr. Ramus for his work on this budget. No action taken.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to enter executive session to discuss union contract negotiations and a specific individual in a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Parry and unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 6:45pm.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Parry and unanimously carried. The special meeting reconvened at 7:30pm.

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

The meeting closed at 7:30P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk