

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

April 20, 2015

A regular 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 April 20, 2015.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:00 P.M.

Members present were:

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

Member Absent was:

Trustee Anthony Farina

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor  
Village Treasurer, Ed Magryta  
Village Attorney, William Florence (7:25pm)  
Police Chief, Ken Scott  
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt  
Approximately 1 community member

Mayor Flynn opened the meeting with a moment of silence for all our fallen soldiers and community members since the last meeting.

Trustee Mellon motioned to appoint Adam Mercado a part time Police Officer at \$21.35/hr (step 1 of the part time PBA contract ) and with maximum probation, 52 weeks.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for March 2015 was presented by Trustee Mellon.

The Fire Department Report for March 2015 was presented by Trustee Murphy.

Trustee Murphy reminded everyone of the upcoming RecruitNY event to be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the firehouse.

The Treasurer's Report for April 2015 was presented by Treasurer Magryta. Topics of discussion included the following:

1. Monthly Financial Updates –Revenue and Expense Control Reports available to the Board
2. Budget complete-awaiting adoption-due 5/1. Tax rate set at \$9.98/thous. Spending Plan approximately \$3,050,000.00.
3. FY 2014-2015 expenditures to wrap up by 5/15/15.
4. Recommend that going forward all general fund contractual purchases have budget verification prior to order.

Mayor Flynn thanked Treasurer Magryta for his hard work on the budget and making sure that the Board has a better handle on how money is being spent and for separating out the overtime to make it easier to track. Mayor Flynn thanked Trustee Aylward for his positive contributions since coming onto the Board and he looking forward to the contributions that Trustee Aylward will be making during his term. The Mayor reported that he would be looking into adding “No Smoking” to the regulations at the parks. The Mayor commented that he would like more people to contribute to, and become members of, the beautification committee.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the below listed minutes as follows:

- a) Budget meeting March 17, 2015
- b) Regular meeting – April 6, 2015
- c) Budget meeting – April 8, 2015
- d) Budget meeting-April 16, 2015

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls  
Resolution  
Adoption of the Budget  
FY 2015-2016

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

4 Ayes 0 Noes 1 Absent (Farina)

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

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the Kick Off in Memorial Park Art Walk, May 16, 2015 pending insurance is provided by the ELC & Collaborative Concepts.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the request from the "Friends of the Library" to reserve 50 parking spots in Municipal lot#1, from 6:00pm-9:00pm, on June 6<sup>th</sup> in support of the Library Spring Gala.

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

3 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Farina) 1 Abstain (Murphy)

motion carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the request from the Town of Highlands Ambulance Corp to hold a Fall Foliage Festival on North Main Street, from Cozzens Avenue to Drew Avenue, on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00am -4:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the request from the WP Orienteering Club to hold an orienteering event that would include the Bog Meadow area from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 from 9:00am-12:00pm. The Board would like West Point to provide a certificate of liability naming the Village as additional insured. The Mayor commented that he would reach out to the Officer in Charge, MAJ Malcomb and get back to the Village Board. No Board action was taken.

Discussion was held on the awarding of the grass cutting contract for FY 2015-2016. Mayor Flynn recommended Neighbors Landscaping and Design be awarded the contract as allowed under the "Best Value" option in the procurement policy of the Village of Highland Falls and because they are a local contractor who currently holds the job. Trustee Mellon commented that he had reservations that by not selecting the lowest bidder, the Village may have trouble in the future getting contractors to bid on Village jobs, but he did support hiring local contractors.

Trustee Aylward motioned to award Neighbors Landscaping & Design the grass cutting contract for FY 2015-2016 with a bid of \$16,360.00.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the training request for Trustee Mellon and Treasurer Magryta to attend the NYCOM 2015 Annual Meeting & Training School, May 3-5, in Saratoga Springs, NY at the approximate cost of \$500-\$600 and that funds are to be used from the Trustee Contractual line.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the budget transfer of \$10,000 from General Fund account #601607927 to Workers Compensation account #83140178, to replenish the Workers Compensation Account.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy to approve the bills and claims for \$83,267.45 from the following listed funds:

FY 14-15	General Fund	\$45,120.93
	Water Fund	\$29,133.76
	Sewer Fund	\$ 9,012.76

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to open the Public Hearing on Taxing Charitable Organizations. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

A Public Hearing, as duly advertised was opened at 7:47PM for the purpose of hearing comments on the Resolution –Taxing Charitable Organizations. The notice of hearing was presented to the Board and filed by the Clerk. The Village Attorney commented that the purpose of this resolution is to give the assessor more flexibility and the maximum ability under the provisions of Article 420-b of New York Real Property Tax Law, that no exemption going forward under NYS Real Property Tax law Article 420-b (1)(a) shall be applicable within the Village of Highland Falls (without specific Village action) in regards to Charitable Organizations.

A question was asked as to who decides for the exemption, to which the Attorney responded that the Town Assessor makes the determination. After all questions were asked and all answers provided, Trustee Murphy motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

The public hearing closed at 8:00P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the Resolution to allow for the Village to tax charitable organizations.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried. (A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to these minutes.)

The Village Attorney commented to the Village Board of the necessity of the Board to have a Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Highland Falls and National Development to pursue further the consolidation of waste water treatment facilities by presenting a plan to the military authorities as to how such a plan will work through contracts with experienced organizations who will do the engineering, construction and maintenance of the consolidated facility.

The Village Board asked Mr. Florence to run his suggestion through National Development and come back to the Board with a document that they can look at and go over with the Attorney.

Trustee Aylward motioned to enter executive session to discuss a specific individual in a personnel matter.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:29P.M.

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

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:06 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 10:06P.M.

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Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk