

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

August 17, 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 August 17, 2015.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:04 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn
Trustee Aylward
Trustee Anthony Farina (7:12pm)
Trustee Robert Mellon
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Ed Magryta
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus
1st Assistant Fire Chief, Erik Smith
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
ESCO Energy Services Company, Jack Hanley
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.

Village Planning Board Chairman James Ramus asked the Village Board if they would be taking any action on the consolidation of the planning boards at this meeting. The Mayor and Board acknowledged a letter from the Town Supervisor and Town Board regarding consolidation of the two Planning Boards and that it is something they are looking at, but not making any decisions on at this time. Mr. Ramus asked that more information be provided first from the Town regarding costs and that the codes be consolidated first. Mr. Ramus also asked if he could be involved with the discussions. The Board agreed with Mr. Ramus.

Erik Smith, Town Planning Board Chairman, commented that although he conceptually agrees with the consolidation of the Boards, he believes the timing to be rushed right now. Mr. Smith reported that although he has submitted his regular budget to the Town Board, he was just asked to also provide a consolidated budget and feels this is rushing the process. Mr. Smith commented that the codes should be consolidated first and this is now in the process of being done, but it is a large task.

Mayor Flynn commented that although this Village Board wants to consolidate everything, they are aware that the bigger savings would be in Police and DPW now, not the Planning Boards. The Mayor commented that although consolidation of the Boards would improve efficiency, we want to do it right and have both Planning Boards comfortable with the process. The Mayor responded that the Village Board will not rush into it, but we will be looking for it to be done before the end of this year. The Mayor reiterated that no decision would be made tonight and he is looking to the Chairmen of the Planning Boards to let the Village Board know when the time is right.

Trustee Mellon presented the WWTP report for July 2015.

The Treasurer's Report for August 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. 2014 AUD is being prepared for submission. Looking for a late September filing.
3. NY Class Accounts (reserve funds)-statements are available for review.
4. DPW Contract negotiations have commenced.
5. Monitoring energy rates M & R for a potential fixed contract

Trustee Farina motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls
Board of Trustees
Resolution Authorizing Treasurer
To Negotiate Electricity Rate

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

Trustee Murphy read a letter of thanks to the members of the Volunteer Highland Falls Fire Department for a great job on extinguishing a garage fire last week and preventing more damage from occurring to the nearby homes. Trustee Murphy also reminded residents of the upcoming Carnival on Fickens Field that is sponsored by the Highland Falls Fire Department. Trustee Murphy asked everyone to come out and support this fundraising event.

Trustee Aylward reported that the first “coffee with a cop” meeting was held at The Center and was successful. Trustee Aylward reported that and they are looking to bring in guest speakers and they would be meeting every 2nd Tuesday.

Trustee Mellon reported that he is waiting to talk to Al Fusco, Village Engineer, regarding the repairs to the air conditioning unit at the Senior Center and other repairs that the grant money will target.

Mayor Flynn thanked Jill Lennon for organizing the Concert Series in Memorial Park, welcomed back Gary Boyce as Street Superintendent and thanked Kevin Hurst for his work the last year and a half in helping out in the DPW.

Mayor Flynn reported that he had spoken with the Village Engineer, Al Fusco, and that he confirmed that the Village would be partnering with the County for the Hazard Mitigation Program.

Mr. Jack Hanley, from ESCO Energy Services Company gave a power point presentation of possible savings to the municipality by changing out the current overhead street lighting to LED lighting .

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

- a) Regular Meeting –August 3, 2015
- b) Special Meeting- August 6, 2015

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to reschedule the Village Board meeting from Monday, September 7th to Tuesday, September 8th due to the Labor Day Holiday.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve Margaret Lewis attending “Accounting Principles & Procedures” course, September 9th -11th , 9:00am – 4:00pm, in Kingston, NY at no cost for course and request for mileage reimbursement.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve Kevin Hurst & Jack Sibley to attend the Hudson Valley Waterworks Conference, Thursday, August 20th from 8:00am -2:00pm in Harriman, NY at the cost of \$30.00/pp.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the request from St. John’s AME Zion Church to use municipal lot#2 for a fundraiser, each Saturday from August 8th to November 14th , 10:00am -4:00pm, excluding Saturday October 24th Fall Foliage and with the caveat that they set up on the south side of the steps that lead into the lot.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the request from Holy Angels on the Hudson Valley for a Halloween Costume 5K, with staging & disbanding in municipal lot #2 & route similar to the Firecracker 5K, on October 31, 2015 from 6:30am-11:00am, contingent on insurance being provided to the Clerk’s Office before the event.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve Arla James as a member of the HFFD, pending the results of the physical, per the recommendation of Fire Chief Steve Suarez.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve Paul Tanghe as a member of the HFFD, pending the results of the physical, per the recommendation of Fire Chief Steve Suarez.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for \$31,907.72 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	General Fund	\$15,002.67
	Water Fund	\$ 6,345.44
	Sewer Fund	\$10,559.61

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

No Public comment.

Board comment:

Trustee Murphy updated the Board on a meeting she and the Mayor attended, with the Secretary of State, regarding a windfall of money the State has received. Trustee Murphy reported that the Governor was looking to apply money to municipalities for efforts in consolidation. Trustee Murphy explained to the Secretary efforts that our municipalities are looking at that might fall under these efforts. Trustee Murphy commented that she and the Mayor came away from this meeting feeling good about the possibilities.

Trustee Aylward motioned to go into 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 8:19 P.M.

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

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:23 P.M.

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

The meeting closed at 9:23 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk