

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

December 21, 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 December 21, 2015.

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

Members present were:

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

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Ed Magryta
Fire Chief, Steve Suarez
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune (7:56pm)
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 8 community members

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

Mayor Flynn resumed the public hearing on the Waterfront Overlay District at 7:06pm. Mr. Frank Schmidt, 1 Hudson Dr., spoke in opposition to the proposed law. Mr. Schmidt commented that it was governmental overreach and asked the Board to cancel it. Mr. Schmidt asked that if the Board still felt compelled to move forward with it, the length of the district be limited.

Mr. Jack Jannarone, 44 Ondaora Pkwy invited the Board members to walk the property down on the riverside that encompasses the Waterfront Overlay District proposal. Mr. Jannarone contended that the terrain would not support development. Mr. Jannarone commented that the current R2 zone would make any development below his property or others, more aesthetically pleasing than a commercial building.

Mayor Flynn responded that it was the previous Village Board that initiated this introductory law, and that the Planning Board brought it before this Board to "clean up their table". The Mayor commented that the LDC should be looking at the options and make recommendations to the Board regarding these properties. The Mayor commented that this Board is not in favor of moving the law forward.

Trustee Mellon responded that this Board is trying to make sure there are no opportunities lost. Trustee Mellon commented that the public hearings are a way for the Board to gather public input.

Trustee Murphy thanked the Planning Board for their progressive thinking, but in reality there are only two properties now being looked at and there is a concern for spot zoning. Trustee Murphy commented that maybe the Board would like to visit them see if current zoning allows too much density.

The Village Attorney responded that the Board can kill the process at any time. The Attorney reminded the Board that only they can make zoning changes. The Attorney commented that the Waterfront Overlay District is flexible and does avoid spot zoning, but if the Board is not comfortable moving forward, they don't have to. The Attorney reminded them that it could be brought forward again at any time and it should be compliant with the Master Plan.

Trustee Aylward motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:29pm.

Trustee Farina motioned that the Board not move forward with the Waterfront Overlay District at this time. The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward reported that the Community Forum would start up the second Tuesday in January and that he has heard positive comments from residents about the police blotter in the newspaper. The November 2015 police report was also presented to be filed.

Fire Chief Steve Suarez presented the November 2015 Fire Department report. Chief Suarez reported that this would be his last meeting and reported the newly elected officers that will begin their term on January 1. Chief Suarez thanked the Board for their support over his term for the past two years.

Trustee Mellon presented the November 2015 WWTP report.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Village Treasurer Ed Magryta and included the following updates:

- a. Monthly Financial Update-Revenue and Expense Control Reports available for review. Treasurer Magryta reported that the revenues look good, however overtime is challenging, especially in the water and sewer departments.
- b. DPW contract negotiations are ongoing.
- c. Overtime issue-need a plan of action for the General Fund.
- d. The fiscal audit for May 31, 2015 should be available by late January.

- e. NY Class Account statements are available for review.
- f. Efficiency Project-discuss timeline. Treasurer Magryta reported that this is a Department of State requirement that ties into the tax cap certification.

Trustee Aylward reported that we are hoping for the grant funding in January for the rehabilitation of the Senior Center. Trustee Aylward reported that a tea party was held in the Senior Center over the weekend with the girl scouts providing entertainment and everyone had a great time.

The Mayor wished everyone good holidays. The Mayor reminded everyone that the first annual Bill Stroppel Volunteer Day is tomorrow and asked everyone to honor Bill by doing some kind of community service. The Mayor recognized Snowdrop Smith for her many hours of volunteering. The Mayor thanked those involved with the season gift collection and distribution. Mayor Flynn commented that he is focusing on consolidation and if anyone has any questions about anything, they should contact the Village for answers to avoid miscommunication. The Mayor reported that the HFLDC held its first meeting this week and they discussed having an overall theme for the community. The Mayor reported that the Chamber has a new President and the 4th of July committee is looking for a new chairperson.

Discussion was held on the updated information provided by the Cancer Research Institute to hold a bike rally in June 2016. An updated site map and production schedule was provided to the Board which requests the use of Main Street and Municipal lot #2. Mayor Flynn explained that the event is still in the planning stages and hopefully by mid- January a clearer picture of the event will be provided. The Board took no action at this time.

A request for a key to the senior center for the Zumba instructor was denied. The Mayor explained that since the recreation director now has a key, it is not necessary for the instructor to have one. The consensus of the Board was to limit the number of keys that are distributed.

The Mayor explained to the Board that he had been sent a sample letter addressed to Governor Cuomo that asked for the Tax Cap to be reexamined. The Village Attorney saw no reason the Mayor couldn't sign the letter.

Trustee Murphy provided the Board with a message of dedication for the plaque to be placed on the All Services Guardian Angel statue that has been donated to the Village and placed in the North End of Main Street near the West Point Gate.

The Board had no objections to the proposed wording.

Trustee Aylward motioned to take two parking spots on Mearns Avenue away from the residence at 96 Mearns Avenue due to safety concerns.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the ESCO Letter of Intent. The Village Attorney provided the Village Board with her revised version of the LOI.

Trustee Aylward motioned for the Mayor to sign the letter of intent with the Village Attorney's revisions. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

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

- a) Regular Meeting –December 7, 2015

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to accept the proposal from Rondout Consulting for \$39,991.00 to conduct the Reorganization & Implementation Study. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and on a vote which follows:
4 Ayes 1 Nay (Flynn)
 motion carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to accept the resignation of PT Dispatcher, Gina Kehoe, effective 1/1/16.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy to approve the bills and claims for \$43,911.09 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	General Fund	\$27,661.53
	Water Fund	\$5,317.80
	Sewer Fund	\$10,931.76

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

The Mayor resumed the public hearing on the Condominium Use Introductory Local Law at 8:29PM. The Village Attorney asked if the Board had considered PRD (Planned Residential Development). The Attorney explained that she removed it because the Planning Board currently has issues regarding the amount of density allowed and they find the wording is confusing. The Attorney asked the Board if they want to remove it, or leave it in and make changes to it to reduce density. The Board asked that the Planning Board give recommendations and that the public hearing remain open.

Public Comment:

Mr. Ray Deveraux, 48 Ondaora Pkwy, asked the Mayor to address the \$800,000 incentive that the Community would be eligible for if consolidation is achieved. The Mayor explained the process of how the \$800,000 is used to offset any tax increases that might be seen by either Town or Village residents during the consolidation process and that the money becomes available for full consolidation.

Mr. Deveraux asked if the Aloe Property will still be the priority of the LDC now that the the Waterfront Overlay District has been put on hold. The Mayor commented that it will be a priority of the LDC, not its only one.

Trustee Aylward motioned to go into executive session to discuss a specific individual in a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:52.P.M.

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

The Regular meeting reconvened at 10:30P.M.

Trustee Aylward motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried. No Board action was taken.

The meeting closed at 10:30P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk