

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

April 16, 2015

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held at the Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY on April 16, 2015.

The Special Meeting opened at 7:10P.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, Edward Magryta
1 community resident

The purpose of the meeting was to hold the tenth Budget Workshop for FY 2015-2016.

The Treasurer opened up the budget session by explaining to the Board that he made the changes as discussed in the last budget meeting and that he believed the budget to be 95% completed. Treasurer Magryta reviewed the tax rate and tax cap information with the Board and asked for final changes the Board may want to make before the Board is presented with a budget to adopt at the Board meeting on April 20th.

Treasurer Magryta commented that he had made \$135,000 in adjustments after the last budget meeting and reduced the amount of fund balance to be applied to \$210,000. The Treasurer explained that the amount to be raised by taxes \$3,050,956.30 is still under the tax cap and a conservative number.

The Treasurer also reported that the water and sewer funds reflect increases to revenues and a decrease in the water fund contingency line. The Treasurer explained that based on preliminary water readings, he is comfortable increasing water meter sales and sewer rents.

After further review by the Board it was decided to decrease A3120.02 (Police Equipment) by \$6,750 (\$17,274.00 to \$10,524.00), to eliminate all costs in the requested budget for a new vehicle.

The Treasurer recommended to keep at least \$10,000 below the tax cap requirement to have funds available for any unforeseen error in calculation of the cap. The Treasurer commented he would lower the amount of fund balance to be applied to an amount closer to \$200,000, if the Board was in agreement.

The Village Board agreed to lower the amount of fund balanced applied to the budget to \$205,000.00.

The Treasurer explained to the Board that he will make the two adjustments as discussed and he will put a final budget in their mailboxes for Monday's meeting to adopt if they decide to. The Treasurer said he believes the final tax rate will be at \$9.98 with the decrease in Police Equipment and using \$205,000 of fund balance. The Village Board was in agreement that they did not want the tax rate to exceed \$9.98.

Discussion was held on the school tax the Village water department is paying on our watershed, Bog Meadow. The Mayor commented that he and a Board member will go to the next School Board meeting to discuss with them giving the Village an exemption, as the Town and County do on this property.

The Treasurer pointed out to the Board that the Clerk's line had been lowered and the Purchasing, IT, and Buildings lines have been increased to reflect better the expenses of these departments. He explained that there was an overall increase of \$1,320.00 when everything was done.

Barbara Mennite, 11 Locust St., asked a couple questions regarding the Detectives position and salary associated with it. The Mayor answered the questions accordingly.

Trustee Murphy motioned to executive session to discuss a specific individual in a personnel matter and contractual issues. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:13P.M.

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

The special meeting reconvened at 10:00P.M.

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

The meeting closed at 10:00P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk