

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

February 1, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in Town Hall, 254 Main Street, Highland Falls, New York on February 1, 2016.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:02 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  
Police Chief, Kenneth Scott  
Fire Chief, Erik Smith  
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune  
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus  
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt  
Camera Operator, Bert McCormick  
Approximately 8 community member

Mayor Flynn opened the meeting and explained that the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the month will be a general business meeting and will be held in Town Hall and the workshop meeting, the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the month, will be held in Village Hall.

Mayor Flynn resumed the public hearing on the introductory local law- Amendment to Zoning Law To Remove 'Condominium' As A Use at 7:05pm. There was no public comment or board comment. The Mayor stated that the Public Hearing remains open.

Mayor Flynn introduced Mr. Ken Bond, Esq, an expert on LDC formations and how municipalities utilize LDC's to help facilitate federal and/or state grant funds or private funds to aid in economic development, or infrastructure projects, of the municipality. Mr. Bond explained how LDC's are structured and the advantages to forming LDC's. Mr. Bond introduced two colleagues who work with Mr. Bond and who helped to answer any questions that the Board had.

Mayor Flynn thanked Mr. Bond and his colleagues for their presentation.

Mayor Flynn reported the following:

The first public meeting on consolidation, part of the reorganization study, will be held on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in Town Hall.

The Village Officials are excited to hear that there are a few new businesses coming soon to Main Street. Thanked all who attended the last Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Thanked Fire Chief Smith for attending Village Board meetings and department head meetings when available.

That he spoke with County Executive Neuhaus who said that the County could help with funds for an elevator for Village Hall.

Trustee Murphy presented the Fire Department Report and asked that a new junior member be approved in new business, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Trustee Murphy introduced Fire Chief Erik Smith who asked the Board to review a memo he sent regarding a new Deputy Fire Chief position within the department and asking for approval of the first three people to hold this position. Chief Smith explained that this position would not outrank any of the current elected fire official positions. Chief Smith explained that these men would hold a mentoring role as well as be available to assist when needed due to staffing constraints that face a volunteer department.

Trustee Murphy commented that she would like the Board to endorse the Fire Chief's recommendation of Deputy Fire Chiefs in new business.

Trustee Aylward updated the Board on the Senior Center and reported that Kevin Hurst would be installing a new water heater tomorrow. Trustee Aylward updated the Board and the general public on the grant money the Village is waiting for to do the renovations to the Senior Center. Trustee Aylward reported that there is no time factor that can be guaranteed.

Trustee Farina presented the Recreation Department report. Trustee Farina reported that they are looking to add a lacrosse program in the Spring, baseball and softball signups are going well, and the Easter egg hunt is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

- a) Regular Meeting – January 20, 2016
- b) Special Meeting-January 20, 2016
- c) Special Meeting-January 25, 2016

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign the permission slip for the Roe Pond lake management.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to complete the probation of PT Police Officer Philip Heckett. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to accept a new Junior Firefighter, Rajib Zaib, into the Highland Falls Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to recognize as Deputy Fire Chiefs, Jerry Galu, William Lee and Steve Suarez, as recommended by Fire Chief Erik Smith.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for \$116,556.42 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	General Fund	\$38,107.25
	Section 8	\$56,968.00
	Water Fund	\$15,862.45
	Sewer Fund	\$ 5,618.72

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Board comment:

Trustee Aylward reported that he and Trustee Murphy recently attended a very informative meeting on using the 911 system. Trustee Aylward thanked the Police Department on a recent situation and how professional they handled it and followed up on it.

Trustee Murphy responded to a recent letter to the Editor that insinuated the Board already had made up its mind regarding consolidation. Trustee Murphy reminded the general public that the Board must go through a whole public process to discuss the results of the study before any decisions are made.

Mayor Flynn commented that he has made his decision. The Mayor commented that he has done his research and he believes that consolidation is a necessity for this community.

Public Comment:

Daniel Malarky, Ft. Montgomery, approached the Board with an update to his plans for a St. Patrick's Parade. The Board reminded Mr. Malarky that an event form with everything he is planning, and a certificate of liability insurance should be turned in to Village Hall before the Board can approve the event. Trustee Mellon explained that the Board approves the concept, however, they need to see the plan and insurance coverage.

Joan Cronin, Eagle Valley Rd, commented to the Board that the Village needs to hire a coordinator for the Senior Center so that the Seniors can utilize the building more often.

Trustee Farina responded that the Village is working with the Recreation Director to hopefully add more programming for the seniors so that the building will get better utilization.

Mayor Flynn responded that the Village is trying to work this out with the Town and Recreation Department.

Trustee Aylward motioned to enter 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 8:26P.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 8:57P.M. No Board action taken.

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

The meeting closed at 8:57P.M.