

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

January 4, 2016

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 January 4, 2016.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:01 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
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 1 community member

Mayor Flynn opened the meeting as the first workshop meeting of the year.

Mayor Flynn resumed the public hearing on the introductory local law- Amendment to Zoning Law To Remove 'Condominium' As A Use at 7:02pm. The Village Attorney reported that the changes from the last hearing were accepted, except for the parking requirements for apartments, to require one space per bedroom, which was inconsistent with the rest of the code. The Village Attorney reported that she did add back in the planned residential development because it is in the Comprehensive Master Plan, even though it has many inconsistencies, but has provided revisions to that section of the zoning law which clarifies that the townhouse development is not allowed in that particular planned residential unit special permit, because it's not clear in the law. The Village Attorney reported that the other changes made included making the maximum number of units per acre 8, which is consistent with the multi-family development and, putting the maximum height at 35ft to be consistent with the rest of the code and requiring a variance from the zoning board for anything more.

The Village Attorney suggested that the law be re-noticed for a public hearing at the next Board meeting and then action could be taken. James Ramus, Planning Board Chairman, had suggestions for the size of apartments to be changed from 750sqft to 900sqft for a one bedroom, 900sqft to 1000sqft for a two bedroom and 1050sqft to 1200sqft for a three bedroom.

Mayor Flynn asked Mr. Ramus to review the changes made by the attorney and to get any more changes to her before the next revision that will be needed for the public hearing at the next Board meeting.

The Mayor commented that the Public Hearing remains open.

Discussion was held on the Art Walk to be held this year. Trustee Murphy reported that she is working with Dr. Shea to bring the Art Walk back this year with the theme of Sustainability and Resiliency. Trustee Murphy asked the Board if they are willing to put a commitment in writing for supporting the event. Trustee Murphy reported that she and Dr. Shea would be looking for grant opportunities to help fund the event as well.

Mayor Flynn commented that the Art Walk will fall under the LDC or Chamber of Commerce. The Mayor reported that the Village will support it, however the LDC or Chamber will take the lead in organizing the event. The Attorney responded that funds will go through the LDC, not the Village.

Trustee Murphy reported that she would like to send an official letter to Creative Concepts that the Village is supportive of the event and tie it into a dedication of the All Services Guardian Angel Statue to be held in the springtime.

Discussion was held on the Consolidation of the Planning Boards. Mayor Flynn asked the Village Attorney to contact with the Town Attorney so the Town Board can discuss at their next meeting. Mayor Flynn reported that the Village Board is looking for a seven (7) person consolidated board with one (1) alternate, this being the last person that was appointed to either Board and through attrition to bring the Board down to five members. The Mayor commented that he would like an agreement for the next Village Board meeting for them to discuss and have both Planning Boards review so that the process can move forward.

Trustee Murphy motioned to appoint Matthew Johnson a member of the Village Planning Board, per the recommendation of the Chairman of the Planning Board, with a term to end, December 31, 2019.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the upcoming construction to be held in the Spring on South Post. The Mayor reported a local business had called him regarding the parking concerns while the construction is going on at South Post. Mayor Flynn reported that he has a call into Col. Dunham, the Garrison Commander, and hopefully will have more information at a later date.

Discussion was held on the Aloe Property located in the Village. Mayor Flynn reported that this property is being looked at by the LDC to investigate any possibilities for the property to remain on the tax rolls for all local municipalities.

Mayor Flynn updated the Board on the topic of consolidation. Mayor Flynn reported that he had spoken with the consultant hired by the Village to conduct the study and explained to him that the Village's goal is to start with the Police Department, not to consolidate, but to dissolve the department.

Trustee Murphy responded that all options should be considered. The Village Attorney cautioned the Board to make sure all the legalities of dissolving a police department and Village are handled properly. The Mayor responded that the consultant will plan on four town-wide meetings and that he will make sure everything is looked into for the legal dissolution of a Village.

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

a) Regular Meeting – December 21, 2015

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the recommendation of the Street Superintendent to surplus the 1998 Jeep Cherokee as junk and get the highest salvage value possible.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
To Request the Reform of
New York State Public Education Funding

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

	Ayes	Noes
Trustee Aylward	x	
Trustee Farina	x	
Trustee Mellon	x	
Trustee Murphy	x	
Mayor Flynn	x	

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

Trustee Farina motioned that all Village employees who are required to attend Public Employee Safety and Health (PEOSH) training seminars are authorized to do so in the calendar year 2016.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to table the termination of probation of PT Dispatcher Alexis Pierson until the next Village Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina motioned to approve the meeting changes from Monday, January 18th to Tuesday, January 19th due to Martin Luther King holiday and Monday February 15th to Tuesday, February 16th due to Presidents Day.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy to approve the bills and claims for \$142,984.16 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	General Fund	\$77,020.34
	Section 8	\$52,554.00
	Water Fund	\$ 6,645.98
	Sewer Fund	\$ 6,763.84

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

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

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 7:56P.M.

Trustee Farina motioned to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:53P.M.

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

The meeting closed at 9:53P.M.