

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

September 6, 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 September 6, 2016.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:02P.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
Chairman Police Commission, Dan Ricci
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 10 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 presented Home Depot representatives and Kathy Keane awards for their participation in the rehabilitation of Memorial Park and thanked Home Depot for the grant award that made it possible. Mayor Flynn presented an award for community service to Kathy Keane and Barbara Mennite for their work in the beautification of the Village.

Donna Liotta, Wellness Ambassador from Rite Aid updated the community on upcoming flu clinics, one trip refill program and a text messaging service being offered by Rite Aid.

Kathy Keane addressed the Village Board regarding Zombie Properties and recent legislation that has been passed to help municipalities issue default judgements against banks that will fine the banks per day while they hold deeds to zombie properties. Ms. Keane asked the Board to allow her to work on finding grants related to Zombie Properties and work with Assemblyman Skoufis's Office to get language to the Board that will allow them to put these judgements against these bank owned properties.

The Village Attorney asked to be kept in the loop on this.

Trustee Murphy motioned to allow Kathy Keane to move forward with working with Assemblyman Skoufis's office for language needed to issue default judgements against Zombie Properties and to pursue grants for a building inspector dedicated to zombie properties as well as a grant for a Zombie Property task force with all information to be brought back to the Board for review.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward reported that The Center is working with the Senior Center with programming on health, medication, and legal issues.

Kathy Keane introduced Stephanie Hart, a psychology major at Mt. St. Mary College in Newburgh who would like to complete her intern requirement at the Senior Center. Mayor Flynn commented that she would be working with Aaron Falk, Recreation Director.

Trustee Farina motioned to approve Stephanie Hart getting a key for the Senior Center.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina presented the Recreation Department Report. Trustee Farina commented that youth soccer and JBK football has started and the lacrosse program will begin in the next few weeks and that the sheds are completed. Youth basketball sign ups have begun and Trustee Farina reported that the recreation department is excited to partner with Junior NBA brand that will provide new uniforms and equipment as long as we teach their curriculum. Trustee Farina reported that our recreation department has been partnering with West Point Youth Services to strengthen both departments.

Barbara Mennite reported on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce to announce an Artwalk on October 8th in municipal lot #2, and that the Answer 2 Cancer bike ride was happy to report that they are looking forward to returning to this location in June 2017.

Mayor Flynn added that the Chamber is also promoting a suicide prevention walk on Sept.24th.

Barbara Mennite reported to the Board that a grant opportunity from RestoreNY for \$500,000 was being prepared on behalf of the Village for the rehabilitation of brick buildings between Mountain Ave. and Cozzens Ave. and that as part of the application process a public hearing must be held.

Trustee Mellon motioned to set a public hearing for the RestoreNY grant opportunity for Monday, September 19th at 7:00pm in Village Hall and for the Clerk to publish as necessary.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to appoint Pastor Agnes Saffourey liaison for the Seniors to the Orange County Office of Aging on behalf of the Village of Highland Falls.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Mayor Flynn reported to the Board that he had sent a letter on behalf of the Village in support of the Resolution to reconsider anchoring commercial vessels between Yonkers and Kingston.

Trustee Mellon motioned:

Village of Highland Falls
Board of Trustees
Resolution
Opposing Anchorage Grounds for Commercial Vessels in the Hudson River

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays

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

Discussion was held on the Greenway Grant proposals received for doing a feasibility study of the area.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the proposal from LA Group to conduct a feasibility study of the area at a cost of \$10,000.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign the NYSDOT Undertaking. The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on a NYSDOT funding opportunity that the Village Engineer brought to the attention of the Village Board. Mayor Flynn reported that he will ask for the Street Superintendent's input and get recommendations by Thursday. Mayor Flynn reported that by Thursday he will get a letter to Skoufis regarding the \$125,000 funding he has offered to the Village.

Discussion was held on a letter received from LTC(Ret) Karen Ward requesting to plant a tree or place a suitable memorial in Memorial Park for recently deceased community leader and Veteran, LTC (Ret)Cathy Kelly. LTC(Ret) Ward presented the Board with suggestions for a dedication of a tree already planted in the park with a plaque placed on a stone that simply honors Ms. Kelly as a community leader and Veteran.

Trustee Mellon motioned for LTC(Ret) Ward to move forward with her plan for a memorial in Memorial Park for LTC(RET) Cathy Kelly.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on letters received from the Department of Health regarding DWSRF Project-Water Main Replacement & Water Filtration Plant and DWSRF Project-Raw Water Transmission Main and the fact that they were not awarded a grant at this time. The Department of Health asked the Village if they want to be considered for round 3 of awards and the Village agreed to let them rollover to round 3 consideration.

Trustee Aylward presented the Police Report for August 2016. Trustee Aylward mentioned that over the weekend there was a fundraiser for the Buffalo Soldiers Monument to be erected in West Point and that it was an excellent program.

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.
- b. DPW contract negotiations –Final Agreement being reviewed.
- c. 2016/2017 Annual budget is in effect. AUD preparation in finishing stages.
- d. NY Class Account (reserve funds) Statements are available for review.

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

- a) Regular Meeting –August 15, 2016

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Violation and Order to Remedy and Notice of Hearing issued to the property owner of 31 Ft. Putnam St., Tax Map No. 103-6-4 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried. The public hearing opened at 8:21P.M.

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Aylward motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:22 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
31 Ft. Putnam 103-6-4

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Trustee Aylward motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Violation and Order to Remedy and Notice of Hearing issued to the property owner of 72 Mountain Avenue., Tax Map No. 104-2-33 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried. The public hearing opened at 8:23P.M.

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Murphy motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:24P.M.

Trustee Aylward motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
72 Mountain Ave 104-2-33

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Trustee Aylward motioned to set the compensation for the Chairman of the Police Commission at \$15,000 for six months.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the authorization for the Mayor to sign West Point DAM Emergency Action Plans. Trustee Murphy recommended that a meeting be held with representatives of the Garrison Command and the Village Board to go over the Plan before the Mayor signs it. Mayor Flynn asked Trustee Murphy to set up the meeting.

Trustee Mellon motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign Section 8 Civil Rights Certification form. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to accept, with regret, the resignation of Jim Modlin from the Economic Development Council Board of Directors.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina motioned to approve the Bike Run for Autism event, to be held in municipal lot#2 , September 17th from 9:00am to 4:00pm and to waive the \$50.00 fee for a music entertainment permit.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Farina motioned to approve the Chalkfest event, October 8th (raindate October 9th municipal lot#1), to be held in Municipal lot #2 from 9:00am-4:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on a memo from Police Chief Scott regarding the Dispatcher Supervisor position. Mayor Flynn referred the memo to the Police Commission for a recommendation.

Trustee Aylward motioned to complete the probationary period for PT Dispatcher Justin Lee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the transfer of \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Workers Compensation fund, per the recommendation of the Village Treasurer, to replenish the Workers Compensation Fund.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for \$148,989.75 from the following listed funds:

FY 16-17	General Fund	\$66,142.98
	Section 8	\$61,657.00
	Water Fund	\$14,817.91
	Sewer Fund	\$ 6,371.86

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

Public Comment:

Barbara Mennite, from the EDC, introduced potential contractors that would do work on the rehabilitation of the buildings, should the Village be awarded the RestoreNY grant, for the Board to have any questions answered.

Joan Cronin, Eagle Valley Rd, asked the Board when will the girl who will intern at the Senior Center get a key and why is the Board cutting cops.

Mayor Flynn responded that she would be working with Aaron Falk to coordinate programming and he also responded that the Board is not cutting cops, but looking to consolidate the departments.

James Ramus, 29 Liberty Street, informed the public that the next reorganization meeting for the committee will be held at 7pm in Village Hall and encouraged the public to attend. Mr. Ramus asked if there is a draft of the DWSRF project which shows a hydroelectric utility. The Mayor responded that the project is not on the table right now.

Board Comment:

Trustee Aylward commented that the event held the past weekend for the Buffalo Soldier monument fundraiser was well attended and was an excellent program. Trustee Aylward reported that the artists rendition of the monument to be built was presented and they gave well deserved honors to Sanders Matthews.

Mayor Flynn added that he presented a Proclamation designating September 3rd as Sanders Matthews Day.

Trustee Mellon asked the Village Attorney if the questions she had for NYPA on the LED Lighting project were answered. The Village Attorney commented that they did answer the questions and all the Board members received copies of the responses.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls
Board of Trustees
Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Execute
LED Replacement Agreement With The New York Power Authority

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

Trustee Mellon motioned to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 9:16P.M.

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

The Regular meeting reconvened at 11:10P.M.

After Board discussion, Trustee Aylward motioned to terminate the appointment of PT Police Officer, Adam Solan.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

After Board discussion, Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the request by DPW Laborer, John McCarthy for a forty day leave of absence, effective August 30th in which he will exhaust his accrued leave, afterwhich any leave will be unpaid. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

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

The meeting closed at 11:15P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk