

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

March 14, 2016

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 March 14, 2016.

The meeting opened at 7:15 P.M.

Members present were:

Trustee Brian Aylward
Trustee Anthony Farina
Trustee Robert Mellon
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Member absent was:

Mayor Patrick Flynn

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta
Street Superintendent, Gary Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to hold the seventh budget meeting for FY 16-17.

Treasurer Magryta opened the meeting and updated the Board on where we are with the budget and what still needs to be done. Treasurer Magryta explained that the tax cap number on the summary sheet, \$3,053,000, is the goal the Board needs to reach before the budget is adopted. The Treasurer reviewed the summary sheet to date and explained the tax rate shown shows a 6% increase in the current tax rate. Treasurer Magryta explained that if the dump truck is removed, the Board still needs to find \$100,000 in cuts to reach the goal.

Discussion was held on the water department and the request for a second vehicle for that department. The Treasurer reminded the Board that the water department can afford a new vehicle, and that department does not have a tax cap requirement. Discussion was held on if the water department could buy a vehicle from the General Fund, which would help the General Fund in regards to the tax cap requirements. Treasurer Magryta recommended that the Department Head justify the need for a second vehicle in the water department.

Street Superintendent Gary Boyce asked the Board about his request for a sweeper. Mr. Boyce indicated a sweeper is more important to him at this point than the dump truck. Mr. Boyce explained that the sweeper engine is the problem and he also warned the Board that next year a truck will be needed in the DPW.

The Treasurer explained that the audit has not been returned yet so he does not have a number for fund balance that he feels comfortable using to help with the budget. Treasurer Magryta suggests only another \$50,000 at this point. Treasurer Magryta recommends a review of the fund balances at mid-year to determine if there is enough to increase the budget at that time and possibly get the dump truck then.

Discussion was held on the Fire Department reserve funds allotment. Trustee Murphy reminded the Board that the reserves was an area the Chief felt could be looked at again. The Board acknowledges that a grant is in progress and have committed to getting the equipment needed even if the grant is not awarded to the department.

The Treasurer confirmed the following changes that were made since the last workshop:

1. Increase the water fund contingency to \$100,000 and increase the principal of the water tanks BAN payment to approximately \$105,000.
2. increase from \$35,000 to \$254,500 the sewer bond payment and confirmed the contingency for sewer fund to be \$100,000.

Treasurer Magryta summarized for the Board the changes he would make before turning the Tentative Budget into the Village Clerk as follows:

Take the dump truck out, lower the FD reserves and allot \$150,000 of fund balance. Treasurer Magryta will also factor in health insurance numbers. Treasurer Magryta reminded the Board that the budget currently has 1% added in for non-union employees and also commented that when adding any changes, he would adjust fund balance accordingly to make sure the tentative budget balances.

Discussion was held on roof proposals to fix the lower roof of Village Hall.

Trustee Murphy motioned to accept the proposal from McCarthy Carpentry LLC for \$16,025 to repair the lower roof of Village Hall. The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 9:06P.M.

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

The special meeting reconvened at 9:15P.M.

Trustee Farina motioned to appoint Jonathan Hurtado a PT Police officer with the salary commensurate with the Part Time Police Collective Bargaining Agreement and with maximum probation.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and on a roll call vote, the results which follow: 3 Ayes, 1 Nay (Aylward) 1 Absent (Mayor), motion carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to transfer \$17,000 from A1990.1990 Contingency to A1620.0400 Buildings to cover the expense of the Village Hall roof repairs.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

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

The meeting closed at 9:17P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk