

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

March 9, 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 9, 2016.

The meeting opened at 7:00 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn
Trustee Anthony Farina
Trustee Robert Mellon
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Member absent was:

Trustee Brian Aylward

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus
Fire Department Board of Directors, Joseph McCormick & Jerry Galu

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

Treasurer Magryta opened the meeting and updated the Board on where we are with the budget to date. Treasurer Magryta reminded the Board of some big items, i.e. the Street Sweeper, a Police Vehicle, and the reserve funds for the Fire Department. Treasurer Magryta explained that the special districts, i.e. the water and sewer funds are not as impacted as the General Fund. Treasurer Magryta commented that questions such as; if the street sweeper should be replaced, leased or contracted out need to be answered. Treasurer Magryta also asked if a possible effort with the Town for joint ownership of a street sweeper is a possibility.

The Treasurer reminded the Board that third shift dispatch is under consideration as part of the consolidation effort.

Discussion was held on the truck room rental agreement with the Fire Department Board of Director members. Treasurer Magryta reminded the Board that the lease expires at the end of May this year and it would be helpful for budgeting purposes to have a new lease negotiated before the final adoption of the FY 16-17 budget.

Ideas were passed around and the Fire Department Board members commented that they would get back to the Village Board before the tentative budget is set.

Treasurer Magryta explained that he has incorporated 1% increases for all non-union employees and asked the Board to review the draft budget and give him recommendations. Treasurer Magryta also informed the Board that he had increased the Police and Communication overtime line a little after the last budget meeting. Mayor Flynn asked the Treasurer to keep overtime at \$45,000.

The Village Board was in consensus to move forward with the pilot program for 3rd shift 911 and realizes that there are radio concerns to ask about and also the possibility of needing a call box to the county. The Mayor asked the Village Clerk to email the Police Chief and ask for an implementation plan to be turned into him by the end of the week. The Mayor also commented that the least used car should be put into the most used slot. The Board also agreed to move forward with being able to purchase a new vehicle with current reserve funds and any additional funds that might have been earmarked for reserve at the end of this fiscal year.

The Mayor did not want to fund the parking enforcement officer position.

Discussion was held on the Fire Department reserve funds allotment. The Treasurer commented they need to find out the percent match needed for the grant application that is in progress, if the grant is awarded and also need to know how much is needed if the grant is not awarded. Trustee Murphy would check with the Fire Chief.

Discussion was held on the Youth Program line. The Board consensus was to leave it at the current funding level of \$7,000. The Board consensus was to give \$1000 to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program and \$2,000 to The Center from the current budget before year-end.

The Treasurer reported that the Water Fund is more stable. The Treasurer reported the Sewer Fund is currently as requested from the Department Head and that the Contingency line for both the Water and Sewer Funds has been increased to \$100,000. Treasurer Magryta reminded the Board of the aging infrastructure and having a healthy contingency line will help if the event of unforeseen problems.

Treasurer Magryta informed the Board that he will need a meeting Monday and possibly Thursday next week in order to file the tentative budget on time with the Village Clerk.

Discussion was held with the Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus, regarding the Developer's Agreement and things he would like the Board to make sure are in it, the impending hotel project and any upcoming events by the Village, and if the developer is to use the Village easement for drainage pipes that run over Fickens Field.

Trustee Farina motioned to enter executive session for contractual matters. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 9:45P.M.

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

The special meeting reconvened at 10:03P.M. No Board action was taken.

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

The meeting closed at 10:03P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk