

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
December 21, 2009

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 December 21, 2009.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 6:00P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio
Trustee Harold Brown
Trustee James DiSalvo
Trustee June Gunza
Trustee Joseph McCormick

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
News of the Highlands Editor , Mary Jane Pitt

The purpose of the meeting was for the Mayor to update the Board on various issues before them.

The Mayor pointed out to the Board the following grants that are available if the Village is interested in applying :

1. Emergency Services – potential for 1st responders. Will give to Chief Miller to investigate if possibility of upgrading technology to allow security camera images to be shown in Police car computers.
2. Energy conservation grant for energy efficiency, ie solar panel on water plant or sewer plant. The Mayor will send information to the Village Engineer to review.
3. NYS Department of Health –State Revolving Fund- a deadline of March 1, 2010. This also to be sent to Village Engineer.
4. O.C. Emergency services –deadline of January 31, 2010. Give to Chief Miller & Mickey Lee to review.

The Mayor asked the Board to review the memo that Chief Miller gave each member outlining suggestions on ways the Village might cut down on expenses.

A motion was made by Trustee DiSalvo to approve the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
2009-2010 Budget Amendment

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Discussion was held regarding the water department and additional testing required by the Department of Health. The Department of Health has required the Village to test 2 samples a month, for a period of one year, for the element cryptosporidium. The Mayor wanted the Board to know that the cost of this additional testing is something that will be discussed during the upcoming budget workshops.

The Mayor reported that not much has been happening in the way of contract negotiations with the Police and said he is going to ask all unions to give back. He would also like to see the overtime in the Police Department reduced. The Board is aware that the Chief is three full time officers down right now, but they would like to look at hiring part-time police officers to help fill these slots. Discussion was held about possible contracting with Town Police for the part-time help or whether the Village will hire more part-time officers. No action taken at this time.

The Mayor reported that he is awaiting estimates from damages done in Memorial Park, to the plaque and pavers. He has clock damage estimates and once all information is received it will be sent to the driver's insurance company for review and reimbursement.

Information from the NYSDEC was received regarding the Village owned dams and annual reports that need to be submitted. This information is to be forwarded to the Village engineer to review.

The Mayor reminded the Board that the Fire Department truck room lease is expired and it will be discussed during the budget workshops. He also suggested that three independent people review the current request of the fire department along with Trustees Brown and DiSalvo before recommendations are made to the Village Board.

Discussion was held on the amount of time drivers are allowed to plow snow. Also, because one employee of the DPW will be deployed soon, the Board would like to plan ahead for future snow removal operations. Discussion was held about hiring two season laborer positions, to be on call for snow removal and that they possibly could be used after the employee deploys to fill in the DPW as needed. Discussion was also held on whether to hire a maintenance worker in the wastewater treatment plant. No action was taken at this time.

Discussion was held on designating four spaces in municipal lot #1 for Town vehicles. No action taken at this time.

Discussion was held on designation of a spot in front of the post office as veteran or senior only, and also reverting the spot designated as police cars only in front of 193 Main Street, back to a metered spot. No action taken at this time.

Discussion was held on the request of the Planning Board to refund application fees (minus administrative costs) to applicant, Gus Podias, due to a Town Building Department referral error. No action taken at this time.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to accept the bid of Scott Duffy for \$350.00 to install wiring for the security camera on the Masonic Hall Building. The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee McCormick to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 7:45P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk