

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

September 7, 2010

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 September 7, 2010.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 7:05 P.M.

Members present were:

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

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Village Residents – Nancy Sporbert – 89 Center Street.; James Ramus –31 Liberty St

A motion was made by Trustee DiSalvo to approve the below listed minutes as follows:

a) Regular Meeting – August 16, 2010

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

A public hearing on the Notice of Failure to Remedy and Notice of Hearing for a junked vehicle on 12 Prospect Street, section 103, block 24, lot 3 was opened at 7:06 P.M. No one was present to represent the property owner. The hearing closed at 7:07 P.M.

Trustee McCormick motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution Concerning Violation of
Vehicles, Abandoned and Junked Law
12 Prospect St – 103-24-3

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo 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.)

The Building Department Report for August 2010 was presented to the Board for review. .

The Community Development Report for August 2010 was presented to the Board for review.

The Police Department Report for August 2010 was presented to the Board for review.

The Fire Department Report for August 2010 was presented to the Board for review.

Trustee McCormick motioned to approve the Ryan Gibson as a member of the Highland Falls Fire Department and Wesley Krieger as a Junior Member of the Highland Falls Fire Department.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Gunza motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Vehicle & Traffic

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo 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).

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Vehicle & Traffic

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).

Trustee McCormick motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Budget Amendment

The motion was seconded by Trustee Gunza 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

Trustee McCormick motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Standard Work Day and Reporting
For the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System

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

Trustee McCormick motioned to approve the training request from Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, John Jones, for himself, and Water Plant Operator, John Sibley to attend NY Rural Water Association training seminar –“HDPE Pipe and Applications” on 11/2/10 in Fishkill, NY at a cost of \$29.00/per person.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the Highland Falls Fort Montgomery Central School District's request to use Roe Park baseball field from March 1, 2011 to June 11, 2010, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm for O'Neill H.S. varsity, jv and modified baseball practices and games.

Trustee Gunza motioned to approve the request from the Highland Falls Fort Montgomery Central School District to use Roe Park field and bathrooms from March 1, 2011 to June 11, 2010, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm for O'Neill H.S. varsity, jv and modified baseball practices and games.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

A thank you letter from Mrs. Pat Keegan was read by Mayor D'Onofrio. She thanked the Mayor and the Police Department for coming to her assistance this past summer when her dog was inadvertently locked in her car.

Some discussion was held on the USAA Lease agreement. The terms include USAA installing a modular building in municipal lot #2 for the period of one year with one, four month extension if needed, and the rent will be \$3,333/month and \$4,444/month for any extension months. The Mayor explained that the Village would like to use this unexpected rent money to pay down the bond anticipation note that was secured to pay for the repairs of the Roe Park pool. This will help during budget preparation for the next fiscal year.

Trustee Gunza motioned to approve the USAA Lease Agreement pending a final review of the document by the Village Attorney, Ben Gailey.

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

 5 Ayes 0 Noes

motion carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to set a public hearing on the Time Warner CableVision Agreement for Monday, September 20, 2010 at 6:00pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

The Mayor reported that Time Warner has agreed to provide a donation to the 4th of July Celebration of \$5,000.00 per year for ten years and also provide, one (1) courtesy monthly high speed connection (Tier2/Business Pro) to include one (1) modem to be used at the Ft Montgomery Battle Site.

A motion was made by Trustee DiSalvo to approve the bills and claims for \$147,293.54 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$28,186.80
Section 8	\$57,314.90
Water Fund	\$43,578.13
Sewer Fund	\$15,286.52
Capital Fund	\$ 2,927.19

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the clearing of the shrubs around the water tanks. JAT Contracting, the contractor for this job, has recommended to the Board that the values extending from the tanks be encased in a concrete slab so they are more visibly located and readily accessible. Trustee Gunza reported that the Contractor had explained an alternate suggestion to her. She would like the Village Engineer to check on the alternative before agreeing to the concrete pads. The Mayor responded that he would ask the Village Engineer to check on this matter. The Mayor reiterated to all the Board members that any changes need to go through the Village Clerk to the Engineer.

The Mayor reported that Bog Meadow would be closed Monday through Friday, starting 9/13/10 for 2 weeks while the brush clearing around the dams is being done. It will be opened on weekends.

Discussion was held on whether the Village should join in with other Orange County municipalities in the Nassau County lawsuit to fight the MTA tax currently imposed on them. The Mayor reported the cost would be a \$45.00 court fee and approximately, \$300.00 to prepare papers that would allow the Village of Highland Falls to be included in the lawsuit instituted by Nassau County.

Trustee Gunza asked if the costs would increase as the suit continues and the Mayor said that he couldn't answer that question. He also reported that this tax costs the Village approximately \$10,000 dollars a year, in response to Trustee DiSalvo's question of how much does the Village pay.

Trustee McCormick motioned that the Village of Highland Falls join with Nassau County in the MTA Tax lawsuit at a cost of \$45.00 for court fees and an approximate cost of \$300.00, to prepare the paperwork that allows the Village to join this suit.

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

motion carried.

The Mayor reported that Olga Anderson, and the Community Green Team, are talking to State officials to see if Route 218, from the West Point Gate to Cornwall on Hudson, could be closed from noon to three on Sundays to allow for a bike/walking trails.

The Mayor asked the clerk to see if we could add no dogs in the mini park on Center Street, to the local law currently in place and have it on the next meeting agenda. The Mayor also reported he is having the Village Attorney look at the code book for clarifying the homeowners responsibility regarding sewer line blockages from the property to the main.

Trustee Brown motioned to approve the Wastewater Treatment Plant hooking up to cable and the internet. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee McCormick reported that he would like to see the Village maintain the areas around the water tanks once the brush clearing project is complete.

He also asked about the Town taking over the maintenance of Memorial Park. Mayor D'Onofrio informed him that Councilman Edsell was assigned to oversee this request. Trustee McCormick reported that the Code Enforcement Officer would be working with the property owner of Key Food parking lot and getting it cleaned up. Trustee McCormick also suggested that the Village Attorney write a letter to the property owner on Cedar Lane who has built a wall and encroached on Village property. Trustee McCormick also stated that he would like to see the Village Water Department and Wastewater Department have a table at the Fall Foliage Festival to provide information to the Village residents and answer any questions.

Trustee Gunza reported that repairs in the Village Hall are being completed and one last requirement is for panic bars to be installed on the lobby doors. Trustee Gunza thanked Trustee Brown for keeping the sewer plant up to par and hopefully this will allow for the Village to receive more customers, for example, the Town.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to enter executive session to discuss a particular employee and a union contract negotiations.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:00pm.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:55pm

Trustee McCormick motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk