

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

November 7, 2011

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 November 7, 2011.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 7:00 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
Police Sergeant, Ken Scott
Village Street Superintendent, James Patterson
Police Officer, Anthony Kuhn
TOH Ambulance Captain, William Stroppel
Village Residents – Norman DeYoung –11 Walker Rd, Dan Borra – 31 Walker Rd,
Sheri & Chelsea Lafurge – 8 Cozzens Ave , Kathy Jones- Catherine Street, Ken
DeCarlo – 17 Catherine Street, Sarah Leo- 36 Webb Lane
Town Residents – Ann Marie & Sal Fiducia, Greg Maher

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

- a) Regular Meeting – October 17, 2011
- b) Special Meeting – October 25, 2011

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Police Department Report for October 2011 was presented to the Board for review.

The Building Department Report for October 2011 was presented to the Board for review.

Trustee McCormick motioned the following:

Resolution
Vehicle & Traffic
Village of Highland Falls

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the surplus vehicle bid of \$10,252.00 from Michael Bosch for the backhoe, but not to release it until the Village is in custody of new backhoe.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Gunza and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to accept the bid withdrawal of \$2,355.00 from CMC Construction for the Liberty Street Sidewalk Repair Project & approve FC& C Construction for the Liberty Street Sidewalk Repair Project at the next lowest bid price of \$3,800.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Gunza and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to accept the bid withdrawal of \$6,820.00 from CMC Construction for the W.P. Visitor Center crosswalk and have the project re-bid in the spring of 2012. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gunza and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve Anthony Galu using JAT Contracting as a subcontractor on the Schneider Avenue Sidewalk Repair Project with the understanding that JAT Contracting will provide the necessary liability insurance and workman's compensation insurance to the Village Clerk before work on the project begins.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo gave the Board and the general public a brief overview of the REED System, which was discussed at the last Board meeting, and in which Mr. Reed gave a presentation on this system and benefits to the municipality during snow events. Trustee DiSalvo explained that roads would be pre-treated with a special brine that hopefully will cut down on salt usage and overtime. The Village had asked the Town to participate and share in some costs. Trustee DiSalvo reported that the Town has not responded yet and recommended to the Village Board to move forward without Town.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the Village Street Superintendent arranging with REED System to make the necessary preparations to the vehicles and obtain the necessary equipment and supplies to implement this process for the upcoming snow season, without the Town involvement, at a cost of \$7,350.00 and to invest another \$3,000.00 in the pumps, if the Town decides not to participate with the Village this year.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5 Ayes 0 Nays

motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Brown to approve the bills and claims for \$118,106.42 from the following listed funds:

FY 11-12	General Fund	\$32,066.59
	Section 8	\$57,568.65
	Water Fund	\$11,357.95
	Sewer Fund	\$17,059.58
	Capital Fund	\$ 53.65

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried.

Trustee McCormick motioned to approve the request from Vision to decorate the community for the winter holidays and to contact the Village Street Superintendent for any assistance from the DPW if necessary.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Mayor thanked all the departments for stepping up during last week's snowstorm that left many people without power for a few days. The Mayor thanked the Police Department for increasing the foot patrols. The Mayor updated the community on FEMA and the Water Department repairs that will be needed and help funded through FEMA. The Mayor commented that the other departments are still waiting on FEMA evaluations and it is expected that FEMA will be able to assist in damages incurred in the Sewer Department and Street Department during hurricane Irene.

Trustee McCormick read the water department report for the month and mentioned investigating quarterly billing, and Town wide sharing in the expenses of Roe Park and recreation.

Trustee McCormick thanked those who helped at the Fire House during the storm and expressed the need for more financial and volunteer support for the Fire House as it is being used an emergency center during these storms. The Mayor commented that he is looking for a volunteer coordinator to assist during these events.

Trustee DiSalvo thanked the departments for their dedication and assistance to the community during this latest storm and Orange & Rockland, in particular a local employee, Jeff Perry, for their quick responses during the storm.

Trustee DiSalvo also brought to discussion the position of detective for the Police Department. Trustee DiSalvo reminded the Board that the in-house position has been budgeted for, but , no action has been taken to fill it.

Trustee Gunza commented that she was concerned that by filling the position it would create a scheduling problem by having too many officers on the day shift.

Sergeant Scott reassured the Board that if the process to fill the detective position was done before the officers lottery for shifts was completed, there would be no scheduling problems. Sergeant Scott commented that the detective would be on the day shift along with another patrolman and the Officer in Charge.

The Mayor commented he was in favor of the Detective's position, however, he would like to see something in writing from the Union that they are in agreement with the scheduling process.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned that Sergeant Scott move forward with hiring for the detective position, to have it filled by January 1st and that the person chosen will have one year probation in the position.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and on a roll call vote the results which follow:
5 ayes 0 noes

motion carried.

Town of Highlands Ambulance Captain William Stoppel addressed the Village Board with concerns over the 911 system currently in use in the Town of Highlands. Captain Stoppel gave the Board numerous situations that occurred during the snowstorm last weekend where 911 was late in receiving calls or dispatching calls because they didn't get through. Captain Stoppel said he would be going to the Town Board to express these same concerns.

Dan Borra, 31 Walker Rd, asked the Board if there was any follow-up to the questions asked at the last meeting regarding the US Academy Motel and how long people are allowed to stay there.

The Mayor responded that there is nothing in State, Town or local law that designates how much time people can stay in a hotel. The Mayor reported that a local law can be written to address this situation and he is working on it with the Village Attorney.

Trustee Brown motioned to enter executive session to discuss specific individual personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:15pm

Trustee DiSalvo motioned out of executive session at 8:35pm The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried. The Regular meeting reconvened at 8:35pm.

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

The meeting closed at 8:35pm.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk