

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

March 1, 2011

A special 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 March 1, 2011.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 6:30 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
Treasurer, Ralph J. Walters
Chief WWTP Operator, John Jones
Police Sergeant, Kenneth Scott (7:15)
Village Resident - Ray Deveraux- 48 Ondaora Pkwy, West Point Motel Owner- Gus Koutsourades – 361Main Street

Chief WWTP Operator, John Jones presented his 2011-2012 Requested Budget to the Board for review. Discussion was held on staffing in the WWTP and a camera that the department would like to help investigate blockages. Discussion was also held on the recent improvements that have been done in the plant, but that also more are needed, most importantly, work on the electrical panel.

The Village Treasurer reminded the Board that Mr. Jones does not do any requests for labor. Mr. Walters commented that he included a 2% increase to all the employees in the WWTP, based on the Supervisors contract of a 2% increase, since the DPWEA is currently negotiating a new contract. Mr. Walters reported that he used the actual expended to date information to formulate his overtime numbers for the full time employees.

Discussion was held on the cost of benefits in this department and the lack of control the Village has on the increases. Discussion was also held on the sewer rates and the need for this amount to increase.

The Board thanked Mr. Jones for his work on the budget. No action taken.

The Treasurer reviewed the requested budget of the General Fund codes for the Treasurer, Clerk, and Trustees with the Board. He mentioned that he did include 2% increases in the salary lines for all full time and part time employees except the Mayor and Trustees. Mr. Walters reviewed the BANs and payment schedules.

Sergeant Scott, Officer in Charge, presented the 2011-2012 Requested Budget for the Police Department. Mayor D'Onofrio thanked Officer Scott for all he has done the past few months to keep the department running effectively while the Board searches for a Chief.

Discussion was held on the requests for the Police Department, Dispatchers and Traffic control. Trustee McCormick brought up the possibility of going to the County 911 dispatch system. Trustee DiSalvo indicated he is trying to set a meeting up to discuss this matter.

The Mayor asked Sergeant Scott and the Treasurer to get together before the next scheduled meeting on March 9th and go over the requests again. No action taken.

Mr. Ray Deveraux asked about health insurance for Village employees, retirement benefits and the Village televising their meetings. Mr. Walters explained the Village policies and contractual obligations determine the costs associated with these benefits. The Mayor indicated that discussion of televising the meetings will come up before the budget workshops are over.

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

The meeting closed at 8:15 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk