

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

March 14, 2012

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 14, 2012.

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

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio
Trustee Harold Brown
Trustee James DiSalvo
Trustee Joseph McCormick
Trustee Richard Parry

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Treasurer, Ralph J. Walters
Police Officer in Charge, Sergeant Ken Scott
Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, John Jones
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately – twenty interested General Public

The purpose of this meeting was a 2012-2013 Budget Workshop. The Mayor welcomed everyone and explained that the Department Heads had already submitted their requested budgets and although some revisions have been submitted, there would be more work to be done before the budget will be adopted.

The Treasurer, Ralph Walters, explained to everyone that he had updated the requested budget with information gathered from the last budget workshop held, but he emphasized that this document is not the Tentative Budget. He explained to the audience that the official Tentative Budget, by law, needs to be submitted to the Village Clerk no later than, March 20th. The Tentative Budget cannot be changed until after the public hearing, which is scheduled for April 2nd, the time to be determined.

Mr. Walters reviewed the changes to the water and sewer funds with the Village Board. The Treasurer reported to the Village Board that at this time, he was not recommending any changes to the rates for the water or sewer bills.

Mr. Walters continued with the review of the changes made to the General Fund. Upon completion of his review, Mr. Walters explained the tax rate increase he has arrived at, at this time, is a 2% increase over last year's tax rate of \$15.30 to \$15.61. Mr. Walters commented to the Village Board that in order for this rate to be at 2%, he appropriated an additional \$88,545.00 from the General Surplus.

After Mr. Walters review, the Village Board continued to discuss the budget before them.

Discussion was held on moving to Orange County for E911, televising of meetings, refinancing of bonds, and staffing positions held in Village Hall. No action taken.

The Treasurer was directed to make the following changes before the Tentative Budget is finalized:

Decrease \$80,000. A5110.2 Street Maintenance Equipment
Increase. \$50,000 A9901.0900 Interfund Transfers Equipment Reserves
Increase \$10,000 A5110.4 Street Maintenance Contractual
Decrease \$20,000 Appropriated Fund Balance

Trustee McCormick motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Parry and unanimously carried. The Mayor recalled the Board.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to re-open the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to enter executive session to discuss union contract negotiations and a specific individual employee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried. Also present in executive session was the Village Clerk.

The Board entered executive session at 7:01pm. Trustee Brown motioned out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and unanimously carried. The special meeting reconvened at 7:25pm

A motion was made by Trustee Parry to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 7:25pm

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk