

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

August 19, 2013

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 August 19, 2013.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Patrick Flynn at 7:05 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn  
Trustee Harold Brown  
Trustee James DiSalvo  
Trustee Robert Mellon  
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor  
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta  
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt  
Police Chief, Kenneth Scott  
Fire Captain, John Rush  
1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief, Jerry Galu  
Water Plant Operator, Kevin Hurst  
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus  
TOH Ambulance Captain, William Stroppel  
Town Councilwoman, Holly Gokey  
Kevin Coffey, TV Camera Operator  
Nancy Kosloski, Executive Director Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Brad Palmiter, Representative of Marshall & Sterling  
Approximately 15 Community Residents

Mayor Flynn opened the meeting with a moment of silence for all of our fallen soldiers and the passing of two local residents Minnie Mae Kemp and Helen Yagel.

The Mayor made two presentations on behalf of the Eisenhower Leadership Center, one to the Blanche Margolis Nursery School of the Highlands and the other to the TOH Ambulance Corp. These groups were honored by the Leadership Center for the contributions they make to the community.

Nancy Kosloski, Executive Director of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program introduced herself and her local representative to the community and explained the mentoring program. Ms. Kosloski explained that it is a prevention based program and there is a partnership with the West Point cadets and Highland Falls Intermediate School children in grades 3-8, with over 40 matches having been made. Ms. Kosloski thanked the Village Board for supporting the program.

Brad Palmiter, representing Marshall & Sterling Insurance, came before the Village Board with a presentation on an alternative health insurance plan. Mr. Palmiter explained that this is a high deductible plan and it will save the Village thousands of dollars compared to NYSHIP, the current plan holder in the Village. The Mayor thanked Mr. Palmiter for his time and presentation. No Board action taken at this time.

Trustee Mellon reported on operations continuing as usual in the Wastewater Treatment Plant; repairs to the digester and grit systems were continuing and a security system has been implemented.

Trustee Brown reported that the Water Department will be flushing hydrants in the Village and Town next week.

Trustee Murphy reminded the community of the upcoming Fireman's Carnival to be held at Fickens Field and encouraged everyone to come out to have fun and support the Volunteer Fire Department and presented the Chief's report for July 2013.

Trustee DiSalvo read the building department report for July 2013.

Mayor Flynn reported on upcoming road closures for street maintenance and resurfacing.

Mayor Flynn updated the Community that the funding for the acquisition of the Knights of Columbus hall has not changed and the funds are still with HUD at this time.

Mayor Flynn reported that the Village and Town Attorney would get together to discuss the revision of the 5<sup>th</sup> Water Supply Agreement to include provisions that the Village is looking for before authorization of 50,000 more gallons per day to the Town is approved. The Mayor confirmed that the Village will move on the matter as soon as an agreement is provided that includes the Village's requests.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request from Street Superintendent, Pat Patterson to use CHIPS funding and the approved State Bid contractor, Gorman Brothers, to do the surface treatments on the roads scheduled for resurfacing.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request from the Street Superintendent, Pat Patterson to use Orange County approved bidders, Reclamation Inc. and Ward Pavements to reclaim and pave parking lot #1 with FEMA funds.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request from the Street Superintendent, Pat Patterson to use Orange County approved bidders, Reclamation Inc. and Ward Pavements to reclaim and pave Veterans Way.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Village Treasurer Edward Magryta presented his report to the Board. He asked the Board to review the auditor's proposals that have been submitted because he would like to get the dates set for the annual audit of the Village Financial Statement for fiscal year ended May 2013.

Mr. Magryta reported on recent renewal of BAN's the Village has had to renew or secure.

Mr. Magryta suggested a form to use for Board approval of transfer of funds between account line items or funds.

Lastly, Mr. Magryta suggested a policy of Board oversight on records retention and destruction. No Board action taken .

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the Village Treasurer's request to attend NYCOM training, September 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> in Saratoga Springs at the cost not to exceed \$700.00 to include registration, mileage and lodging.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a vote of 3 Ayes, 2 Nays (DiSalvo, Brown) motion carried.

Mr. Richard Zzie addressed the Board in reference to his property on Sweezy Avenue and his request to have the road extended. The Mayor reported that the Village Engineer has recommended that because there are too many issues, ie drainage and safety of the steepness at the end of the road, this matter should be looked at further before any action is taken. The Mayor also added that the Village has no funds to do this type of project at this time. No action was taken.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve James DiSalvo as a member of the Highland Falls Volunteer Fire Department, effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a vote of 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain (DiSalvo) motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Brown to approve the below listed minutes:

a) Regular Meeting – August 5, 2013

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo with the following correction:

page 3 , paragraph 7., to read 2 Ayes and 3 Nays (Trustee DiSalvo, Brown & Murphy) and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to amend the application of the Fire Department request for the OCVF Parade to be held on September 28, 2013, to include the use of Roe Park, Pavillon and bathrooms for an "after parade party and awards reception" with DJ music, for the participating Fire Companies from Orange County from 3-9pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to authorize the Mayor to sign the liquor license application for a permit to provide beer, in a secured tented area (basketball court), to be disbursed to firefighters only, with a wristband system implemented for security purposes, at Roe Park during the "after party" and awards reception.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the use of one set of bleachers from the Roe Park baseball field to be used for a reviewing stand in the parking spaces at the corner of Mountain Avenue and Main Street.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Trustee Brown motioned to reschedule the Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm because of the Labor Day Holiday.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the request from the Town of Highlands to reduce the Consolidated ZBA from 7 members to 5 members thru attrition.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the travel expenses of Attorney's Tony Kushnir and Michael Simmons, for \$1,080.04, to attend the Village Board meeting held on August 5<sup>th</sup> in reference to their services for upcoming WWTP projects that could include consolidation of services for West Point, the Village and the Town of Highlands.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a vote of

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain (DiSalvo) motion carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the completed probationary period of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, Timothy Doherty, effective August 1, 2013, as required under Orange County Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Flynn and on a vote of

4 Ayes 1 Nay (Brown) motion carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the request from the HFFMCSD to use Roe Park baseball field for James I O'Neill Varsity, JV and Modified baseball teams from March 1, 2014 through June 10, 2014, pending all insurance documents and necessary paperwork is filed with the Village Clerk prior to the start of the season.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve Village FEMA funds of \$10,800.00 to the Town of Highlands for work performed in the repair and mitigation of the Highland Brook Wall behind the Town Hall, as recommended by the Village Engineer and Village Street Superintendent.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Brown to approve the bills and claims for \$40,019.33 from the listed funds:

FY 13-14	General Fund	\$23,270.05
	Water Fund	\$ 2,000.47
	Sewer Fund	\$11,295.41
	Capital Fund	\$ 3,453.40

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve a change order request of \$6,700.00 to install a new 225 amp feed to the mixing equipment panel in the WWTP as recommended by the Village Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on requested specific events to be held by the newly formed Independence Day Committee, between June 7, 2014 and July 4, 2014, for approval by the Village Board. Trustee DiSalvo asked to table the requests since this was the first time the Board saw the requests, until the Board had time to review them and insurance was provided. Mayor Flynn insisted that an end be put to the two committee controversy and asked for Board approval of the events presented so that the Independence Day Committee could move forward in their planning.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the framework of events as provided by the Independence Day Committee, pending further detail of events, insurance requirements and the necessary paperwork is filed with the Village Clerk before the first scheduled event.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and on a vote of

3 Ayes 1 Nay (Brown) and 1 Abstain (DiSalvo), motion carried.

Discussion was held on how the finances of the Independence Day Committee will be handled. Mayor Flynn explained that the Town of Highlands did not want to get involved in the collection of these funds at this time, and the Village should take responsibility so that there will be proper accountability of funds and a proper use of the Village EIN number.

Trustee Murphy motioned that the Village take on the financial responsibility of the Independence Day Committee utilizing the Village's financial authority.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a vote of 4 Ayes 1 Nay (Brown), motion carried.

Mayor Flynn asked the Board to consider moving future Village Board meetings to the Town Hall for better handicap accessibility and more room. The Mayor commented that after the last Board meeting held there he received positive comments from members of the community to continue to hold meetings there. No Board action taken at this time.

Mayor Flynn reported on a couple of committees that have recently formed, the Quality of Life Committee, that will focus on property maintenance concerns and being another set of eyes for the code enforcement officer, and the Main Street Committee that will be an extension for the Building Department to report on property maintenance concerns along the business district. Mayor Flynn also commented that a recommendation from the Village worker's compensation carrier is to form a Safety Committee to review employee injuries and subsequent plan for return to work.

Public comment included questions regarding sidewalks on Cozzens Ave., truck traffic on local streets, and if the Village Board has considered the full build out of the Village before agreeing to provide more water to the Town. The Mayor responded by saying any concerns on any issues should be sent to the Board in writing with specific concerns and that the Village Engineer has taken into consideration the Village build out before recommending additional water to the Town.

Board comment included Trustee Murphy pointing out that now that the 5 Star Inn on West Point property is being run privately, the Village should look into assessing the building and seeing if there are any tax considerations that now apply.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to enter into executive session to discuss a specific individual in a personnel matter.

Motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The Board entered into executive session at 10:15 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned to come out of executive session at 10:30 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:30 P.M.

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

The meeting closed at 10:30 P.M.

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Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk