

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

October 7, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held at the Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY on October 7, 2014.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:03 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn
Trustee Robert Mellon
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Members absent were:

Trustee Harold Brown
Trustee Anthony Farina

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Fire Chief, Steve Suarez
Police Chief, Kenneth Scott
Camera Operator, Kevin Coffey
Village Attorney, William Florence
Town Councilwoman, June Gunza
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 5 Community Residents

Mayor Flynn welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a moment of silence for all our fallen soldiers and community members who have passed away since our last meeting.

The September 2014 Police Department Report was presented to the Board by Chief Scott. Chief Scott added recent grants that he has successfully applied for include \$2,000.00 from Orange County for DWI monitoring and \$3,920.00 from the Governor Traffic Safety Committee to enforce seatbelt violations and aggressive driving violations to name a few. Chief Scott commented that he met with Tactical Officer Col. Merkel and Cadet Captain Welsh from West Point to discuss how the two communities can create positive experiences for both the residents and cadets.

The September 2014 Fire Department Report was presented by Trustee Murphy. Trustee Murphy added that the Fire Department has applied for a grant for breathing apparatuses and requested that if a grant is obtained, any money that was put into the budget for this equipment could be put into the vehicle reserve fund. The Mayor gave his word that any money saved because of a grant would be put into a contingency fund for the Fire Department.

Chief Suarez added that next week is Fire Prevention Week and the theme is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives" and the Fire Department has a grant to replace smoke alarms in residences and to contact the Fire Department for details.

Mayor Flynn reported that many street lights had been replaced and thanked Kevin Hurst for working with O&R on getting this done. The Mayor thanked everyone that helped with the Fall Foliage decorations, especially Janet Dutt, Bobbie Polak and Kevin Hurst and the DPW crew. The Mayor reported he wants to reinvigorate the Beautification Fund and bring back the Celebration Fund and hopes to get donations or corporate sponsors who will help with the funding. The Mayor thanked Nick DeYoung and the Farina Family for their donations to the Senior Center.

A discussion on water rates was held. The Mayor commented that he is waiting on more information from the Treasurer before making any decisions. Trustee Mellon commented that he is not in favor of raising the base rate but that an increase to the additional gallons over 5000 could be looked at. No decision has been made to increase rates. The Mayor said a special meeting will probably be set and that the public will be notified.

Mr. Sean Mulqueen came before the Board to present an idea for a Halloween event at Roe Park on October 31st and November 1st. The Mayor asked Mr. Mulqueen to come to the next meeting with more details and commitments of volunteers and sponsorship, who would provide insurance coverage, and a safety plan. No Board action was taken at this time.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the below listed minutes as follows:

- a) Regular Meeting – September 15, 2014
- b) Special Meeting – September 22, 2014

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls
Resolution Requesting Real Property Tax Exemption
Of the Village Owned Water Supply Property

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

3 Ayes 0 Noes 2 Absent (Farina/Brown)

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

A request for reimbursement from WWTP Operators, Jones and Murphy, for the cost to renew their license certificates at the cost of \$160.00 each, was tabled. Trustee Mellon requested more information be obtained before making a decision.

Trustee Mellon motion to approve the request from the Treasurer to borrow \$75,000.00 from the Sewer Fund to the Water Fund to meet payroll and warrant expenses, to be paid back once November water collections begin.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
2014-2015 Budget Amendment
Fire Chiefs Vehicle Repairs

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

3 Ayes 0 Noes 2 Absent (Farina/Brown)

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

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the request from The Center to hold a fundraiser Breast Cancer Walk around Roe Park on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to complete the probation of Officer Jennifer Brandt, and that she be made a permanent member of the force, as recommended by Police Chief Scott.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to accept the resignation of Parking Enforcement Officer Justin Lee, effective immediately.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy to approve the bills and claims for \$210,703.92 from the following listed funds:

FY 13-14	General Fund	\$117,217.57
	Section 8	\$ 54,439.63
	Community Development	\$ 3,352.65
	Water Fund	\$ 14,640.65
	Sewer Fund	\$ 21,053.42

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

A hearing was opened at 8:00 P.M. for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 138 Mearns Ave., Tax Map No. 105-1-18 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. No one was present to represent the property.

Public hearing closed at 8:03 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
138 Mearns Ave. 105-1-18

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
3 Ayes 0 Nays 2 Absent (Brown/Farina)
motion carried. (A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes)

A hearing was opened at 8:03 P.M. for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 84 Mearns Ave., Tax Map No. 105-1-1.1 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. No one was present to represent the property.
Public hearing closed at 8:05 P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
84 Mearns Ave. 105-1-1.1

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
3 Ayes 0 Nays 2 Absent (Brown/Farina)
motion carried. (A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes)

A hearing was opened at 8:05 P.M. for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 53 Villa Parkway., Tax Map No. 105-3-48.12 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property. Dead tree in need of removal. Rubbish in yard and driveway, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. No one was present to represent the property.
Public hearing closed at 8:07P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
53 Villa Parkway 105-3-48.12

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
3 Ayes 0 Nays 2 Absent (Brown/Farina)
motion carried. (A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes)

A hearing was opened at 8:07 P.M. for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner (and Estate) of 6 Cooks Lane., Tax Map No. 104-8-10 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. No one was present to represent the property.
Public hearing closed at 8:10 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
6 Cooks Lane. 104-8-10

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
3 Ayes 0 Nays 2 Absent (Brown/Farina)
motion carried. (A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes)

A hearing was opened at 8:10 P.M. for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 72 Mountain Avenue, Tax Map No. 104-2-33 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes on property, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. No one was present to represent the property.

Public hearing closed at 8:12 P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
72 Mountain Avenue 104-2-33

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

3 Ayes 0 Nays 2 Absent (Brown/Farina)

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

Public Comment:

Martha Alyward, Church Street, concerned with kids on scooters with no helmets and thought there is a helmet law.

June Gunza, Town Councilwoman, asked the Board if a date for the water meeting has been set. The Mayor responded that it had not. Ms. Gunza asked if public would be notified. Mayor responded that the public would be notified.

James Ramus, Liberty Street, asked the Board to keep the water rate increase to a bare minimum because last week's newspaper indicated that the Villager's town tax rate appears to be increasing over 7%.

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

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:20P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and unanimously carried. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:30P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the proposal from Pat Kelly to paint the Senior Center for \$3,050.00.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 10:31P.M.

Regina M. Taylor,
Village Clerk