

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

February 26, 2014

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 February 26, 2014.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:11P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Patrick Flynn  
Trustee Anthony Farina  
Trustee Robert Mellon  
Trustee Barbara Murphy

Member Absent was:

Trustee Harold Brown

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor  
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta  
Chief Water Plant Operator, Kevin Hurst  
Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus  
Village Residents: Sandra Capriglione- 26 Kings Rd.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold the third Budget Workshop for FY 2014-2015.

Treasurer Magryta gave a brief summary of the last meeting and reported to the Board that there will be a new report for them on Monday, after the department heads have presented their requests.

Planning Board Chairman, James Ramus, presented the Planning Board requested budget for FY 2014-2015. Mr. Ramus prefaced his report by telling the Board this request is down from last year. Mr. Ramus explained that most of the engineers and attorney fees are covered by applicants but there is occasion for the Planning Board to get answers from them regarding other concerns and therefore he has budgeted some funds for that purpose. Mr. Ramus explained the rest of his budget comprises training classes, office supplies.

Treasurer Magryta noted that salaries of the members are very low and have been so for quite a while. He recommended to the Village Board that the salaries of the members be adjusted to coincide with inflation. Mr. Ramus responded that he would poll his Board if they felt an increase was necessary.

The Board thanked Mr. Ramus and asked him to take back to the Planning Board, that they appreciate the good work that they all do. No Board action taken at this time.

Chief Water Plant Operator Kevin Hurst, temporary supervisor of DPW, presented the DPW requested FY2014-2015 budget. Mr. Hurst thanked the former Street Superintendent for his assistance while preparing this budget. Highlights included a discussion on crack sealing and how much the Board is willing to spend on this in the upcoming year. Treasurer Magryta commented that he will set up a reserve equipment line for the DPW fund.

Discussion was held on snow salaries. Mr. Magryta commented that he is working on these salaries. Mr. Hurst commented that the use of contractors this year was because of safety concerns. The two storms back to back created tough parking and road conditions. He stressed the need for emergency responders to be able to get through the streets.

Discussion was held on the playground and the need for more walk-throughs to hopefully cut down on vandalism and graffiti on the equipment and gazebos. The Mayor pointed out that all parks should come under the Town purview. The Mayor also pointed out that the staining of the Pavilion at Roe Park is overdue and should be taken care of in the upcoming year. The Mayor suggested the Town could possibly help with this expense and that he would approach the Town Supervisor about it.

Discussion was held on what line the salary could be put for the Supervisor doing collateral duty. The Treasurer recommended that A.7110.0100 be used to track this salary.

Discussion was held on the Street Sweeper and the need to look for a better plan to clear cars before the sweeper cleans the street.

The Board thanked Mr. Hurst for his presentation. No Board action taken at this time.

Treasurer Magryta presented the Village Hall administration budget request for FY2014-2015. Mr. Magryta pointed out that 2% had been added to non-union salaries and that \$500.00 had been added for Purchasing Contractual as he felt the Purchasing Clerk should have a small contractual line. Mr. Magryta pointed out to the Board that the salary line under Buildings is not needed because janitorial services have been contracted out, therefore the contractual line will be increased to reflect this.

Mr. Magryta explained that in last year's budget, the total for the Clerk's contractual and the Treasurer's Contractual was split and used interchangeable for most of the office expenses. Mr. Magryta recommended that this year remain the same, however, there would be minor changes to the equipment line. The Treasurer's contractual will also be increased \$1000 for the cost of annual audits for the financial statements, Gasby 45, as well as the SEC filing.

Other highlights included:

- a. adding funds to the Engineer line to cover the cost of renewing the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- b. discussion on getting the Attorney to give a set price for annual support.
- c. discussion that unallocated insurance is expected to increase because of the claims in the WWTP this year due to Tropical Storm Irene.
- d. adding \$5,000 to the Judgments and Claims contractual line to cover anticipated certiorari claims
- e. explaining the MTA tax is based on payroll
- f. increasing the Contingency line to \$25,000 so the Board can better track unanticipated expenses.
- g. adding a contractual line for the Senior Center and funding it for \$50,000
- h. left the Historian contractual the same
- i. Treasurer would like Board's guidance on the youth programs line.

Discussion was held on the bond schedule for FY2014-2015. The Treasurer reported that the net bond schedule will increase due to the structuring of the schedule.

The Treasurer completed his presentation. The Mayor commented that he would like to start to put aside funds for the painting of the Building. No Board action taken at this time.

Trustee Murphy motioned to enter executive session to discuss a specific individual in a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 8:56 P.M.

Trustee Farina motioned to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried. The Special Meeting reconvened at 9:59 P.M.

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

The meeting closed at 9:59 P.M.

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Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk