

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

March 10, 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 March 10, 2014.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:16P.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
Village Residents: Sandra Capriglione- 26 Kings Rd, John McCarthy Sr.- 55 Mearns Ave.

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

Treasurer Magryta opened the meeting with remarks from the last session and a comparison for the Board of where this budget is in relation to the tentative budget at this time last year. Treasurer Magryta commented that he has factored in a 5% overtime rate that will cut out a substantial amount of overtime pay but allow for emergencies, however, it does not allow for department heads for scheduled weekend overtime. The Treasurer commented that he maintained the snow budget from this year. Treasurer Magryta reported to the Board that he is in the process of reorganizing the BANs and working with a different bond council to restructure and perhaps combine them for one payment at the end of the fiscal year, in order for a better cash flow.

There was some discussion on long and short term bonds and callable and non-callable bonds.

A review from the General Fund Revenue follows:

1. Treasurer Magryta commented that the most significant source of revenue is Real Property Taxes. The Treasurer remarked that the overall assessment for the Village has decreased and at this point he does not have an estimate for this revenue.
2. Sales Tax revenue was increased by \$75,000 to \$1,125,000, based on the quarterly returns and estimates from the county.
3. On-Street Parking Meters was increased by \$4,000 to \$28,000 because of the recent hiring of part time parking enforcement officers and a new prosecutorial attorney to handle vehicle & traffic violations.

The Treasurer did not make significant changes to the other revenue lines.

A review of the General Fund Expenses resulted in the following changes:

1. Treasurer Magryta commented that a 2% increase has been factored in on all salary lines.
2. The attorney line was lowered \$10,000 to \$30,000.
3. The Engineer line was increased \$20,000 to \$45,000 to include cost of a Hazard Mitigation Plan.
4. Buildings salary was reduced by \$15,000 to zero because janitorial services are contracted out.
5. Set up a Buildings Reserve fund with \$5,000.
6. Add an overtime line for Central Garage salaries and include 5% from the salary line.
7. Reduce unallocated insurance \$5,000 to \$125,000.
8. Contingency line set at \$50,000, but Board could look to reduce before final budget.
9. Reduce Central Communications salary line to \$205,000 from \$219,800 and add \$15,000 to a new overtime salary line.
10. Reduce Police Salary line to \$842,000 from \$910,411 and add \$33,000 to a new overtime salary line.
11. Reduce Police Equipment line \$45,650 to \$14,433 and add \$10,000 to a new vehicle reserve line.
12. Reduce Police Contractual \$7,500 to \$87,595.
13. Reduce Fire Department Equipment line \$4,000 and reduce Contractual line \$8,000. Add \$20,000 for a Fire Truck Reserve. Ask the Fire Department for the cuts.
14. Reduce Sidewalks Contractual \$3,750 to \$5,000.
15. The Treasurer noted that Street Lighting was increased \$10,000 to \$85,000 based on current electric bills.
16. Storm Sewers contractual was reduced to \$5,000 from \$10,500.
17. Treasurer Magryta commented that health insurance has been increased by 9%.

The review of the General Fund concluded with an overview of the payments and interests due on the current serial bonds, statutory installment bonds and bond anticipation notes.

The Mayor reported to the Board that he had met with the Town Supervisor on the possibility of the Town paying for the staining of the pavilion at Roe Park with Town parkland fees, consolidating the Historian's budget under the Town budget and making a decision on the ownership of Memorial Park.

The Mayor also reported that he met with school officials about getting an exemption from school taxes on the Bog Meadow reservoir, creating a parking lot off of Wyandotte Ave to the back corner of Fickens Field and school personnel helping with snow removal on the sidewalks along Mountain Ave.

The Mayor commented that the Town Supervisor will discuss the items with the Board and the School Board will also discuss at an opening meeting the requests from the Mayor.

The Mayor concluded with his comment that he is in favor of getting rid of the parking meters and he would like the Police to be less intense about giving parking meter tickets and more community friendly.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the next budget workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7:00PM.

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

The meeting closed at 10:27 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk