

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

March 3, 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 3, 2014.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 8:43P.M.

Members present were:

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

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Edward Magryta
Police Chief, Kenneth Scott
Village Residents: Sandra Capriglione- 26 Kings Rd., Kathy & Anthony Kuhn-10 Lake St.

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

Treasurer Magryta reviewed notes from the last budget session and gave the Board an idea of where we are going. The Treasurer pointed out he had moved half of the Youth Programs funding, \$3,500.00 to the Senior Center line item, increasing it to \$53,500.00.

Police Chief Kenneth Scott presented the requested Police Budget for FY 2014-2015. Included in the presentation was Central Communications, Police Department, Traffic Control and On-Street Parking.

Chief Scott's salary highlights included:

Salaries for 3 FT Dispatchers, 1 Chief, 2 Sergeants, 1 Detective, 6 FT Officers, 1 PT Traffic Enforcement Officer, 1 Crossing Guard. Salaries reflect a 2% increase and noted that the Unions are currently in negotiations.

Chief Scott pointed out that he has increased slightly from last year items such as special events coverage, i.e. Halloween and Gate Night, 4th of July, Fall Foliage Festival and West Point home football games. Chief Scott reminded the Board that it is hard to predict what events will require more policing during the year.

Under the equipment line, highlights include an SUV vehicle, Glock pistols and replacement computers.

Chief Scott reported that the contractual lines have a slight increase and the major items are clothing allowance, phone system, computer repairs, fuel, and vehicle repairs, as Chief Scott noted, it is an aging fleet.

Treasurer Magryta asked the Board if they'd like to see the overtime on a separate line if possible or added to contingency for the Board to be made more aware of expenses out of this line. The Treasurer reported to the Board that overtime is a big concern. The Board is in agreement that a separate line be put in to track overtime if possible.

Treasurer Magryta also recommended a reserve line be set up for vehicles.

Discussion was held on how the budget could be tightened up. Treasurer Magryta recommended to look at the special events and perhaps a fee schedule could be developed for those utilizing Village property and resources. Mayor Flynn also questioned if security guards could be hired or if the County could help in this area. Chief Scott responded that the County wants to see the Village have full utilization of its force before they would offer assistance.

In the Police Equipment category, Chief Scott pointed out that he has budgeted for a vehicle to replace the 2006 Crown Victoria. The Chief explained the need to replace this vehicle with an SUV and offered possibly switching the 2002 Crown Victoria with the 2006 Crown Victoria and to potentially surplus the 2002. The Chief explained the need for rotation of the vehicles to keep the fleet in the best condition possible. Other costly items include ammunition and electric for the poles that house the security cameras.

The Chief also included in the equipment requests, bulletproof vests, computers, tasers and Glock pistols. Chief Scott mentioned that some items have been requested through an Entergy grant and that if the grant comes through, the budget could be amended.

Treasurer Magryta recommended that the Prosecutor give the Board an estimate on revenues that can be expected from the generation of parking tickets and meter tickets.

The Mayor commented that he would like to look, in the future, at the meters on Main Street and the visual effects as well as the hazards they create when cleaning sidewalks.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the Fire Department will present their requested budget on Wednesday night at 7:00pm. Treasurer Magryta commented he would have a blueprint for where the budget is after all Departments have presented, at the Monday, March 10th meeting.

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

The meeting closed at 11:09 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk