

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

September 21, 2015

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 September 21, 2015.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Flynn at 7:06 P.M.

Members present were:

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

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Treasurer, Ed Magryta
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune (8:20pm)
Street Superintendent, Gary Boyce
Fire Chief, Steve Suarez
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Approximately 4 community members

Mayor Flynn opened the meeting with a moment of silence for all our fallen soldiers and community members since the last meeting.

The Mayor introduced Mr. Hector Torres who spoke on E-CAD a service dog program and ways to make the community service dog friendly.

Trustee Mellon presented the WWTP report for August 2015.

The Treasurer's Report for September 2015 was presented by Treasurer Magryta. Topics of discussion included the following:

1. Monthly Financial Updates –Revenue and Expense Control Reports available to the Board
2. 2014 AUD is being prepared for submission this month
3. NY Class Accounts (reserve funds)-statements are available for review.
4. DPW Contract negotiations are ongoing.
5. Monitoring energy rates M & R for a potential fixed contract in Sep/Oct.

Trustee Murphy read the Fire Department Report. Trustee Murphy reminded the residents that the smoke detector installation program has started back up again and to contact the Fire Department if interested. Trustee Murphy reported that annual testing of fire hoses and fire extinguishers has begun and that vehicle preventive maintenance will be scheduled next week. Trustee Murphy reported that the Fire Department will be supporting the O'Neill HS homecoming parade this weekend.

Trustee Aylward reported that the Community Action group met recently and a discussion on PINS (person in need of supervision) was held. Trustee Aylward reported it was a very informative session. Trustee Aylward reminded residents that when the Police are asked about a drug problem in the Village, the Police cannot always talk about ongoing or open cases.

Trustee Mellon reported that he would be meeting the engineer at the Senior Center this week to put a prioritized list together to put together a bid document for the rehabilitation work that can begin.

The Mayor reported that, with Board approval, he would like to send an official letter to the Town Board regarding recreation programming. The Mayor commented that the Town needs to give the new director the resources to do the job. The Mayor thanked Mr. Jim Willis for the many years of service to the recreation program and wished him well in his retirement.

The Mayor informed the community that a RFQ for the consolidation study to be funded through the CREG grant award would be going out as soon as the Village receives the State contract for the award.

Discussion was held regarding a letter submitted by Mr. Richard Zzie, 23 Sweezy Avenue, and his request to extend the dead end road near this property and allow him to access the existing driveway. The Village Board explained to Mr. Zzie that he would have to go before the Planning Board and the Planning Board would give their recommendations to the Village Board.

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

- a) Regular Meeting –September 8, 2015

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

Trustee Mellon motioned to appoint Stephen Gass, a FT Mechanic, effective date 9/28/15, at the rate of \$18.00/hr & with maximum probation.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
2015-2016 Budget Amendment

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

A request to hold a Turkey Trot was tabled until the next meeting.

Trustee Murphy motioned to complete the probation of Part time Officer Michael Coleman, effective 10/20/15. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

4 Ayes 0 Noes 1 Abstain (Farina)

motion carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to open a public hearing 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.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon. Hearing opened at 8:24P.M

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Aylward motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:26P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

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

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

4 Ayes 0 Noes 1 Abstain (Farina)

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

Trustee Mellon motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 11 Center Street., Tax Map No. 104-2-28 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.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. Hearing opened at 8:29P.M

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Mellon motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:29P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
11 Center Street 104-2-28

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Trustee Farina motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 9 Sweezy Avenue., Tax Map No. 103-25-8.2 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.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. Hearing opened at 8:31P.M

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Mellon motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:31P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
9 Sweezy Avenue 103-25-8.2

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Trustee Aylward motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 17 Laurel Lane., Tax Map No. 105-8-8 for the failure to maintain overgrowth of high grass, weeds & bushes & on property & unsanitary pool conditions, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Property Maintenance Code 170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited & 170-1 B(6) Property Maintenance.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina. Hearing opened at 8:33P.M

No one was present to represent the property. No comments were heard or questions asked.

Trustee Murphy motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:33P.M.

Trustee Aylward motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance
17 Laurel Lane 105-8-8

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Trustee Aylward motioned to open a public hearing for a Notice of Failure to Remedy Violation issued to the property owner of 37 Ondaora Parkway., Tax Map No. 106-2-10 for the failure to cut down & remove dead trees, in violation of the Village of Highland Falls Tree Law section 221-4.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon. Hearing opened at 8:35P.M

No one was present to represent the property. Neighbors did attend to voice their concerns to the Village Board as the dead trees overhang their backyard pool.

Trustee Mellon motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried. The public hearing closed at 8:35P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution
Concerning Violation of Tree Ordinance
37 Ondaora Park 106-2-10

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

5 Ayes 0 Noes

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

Mayor Flynn commented that the Village Street Superintendent would visit the location to determine if there is an imminent danger to the neighboring property and to remedy the situation if necessary and all charges to be invoiced to the property owner.

The Village Treasurer brought to the Boards attention that the school tax bill on the Bog Meadow property should be included in the bills and claims in order to avoid a late penalty if paid after the end of September. The Treasurer reminded the Board that this is a tax that should be exempt and encouraged the Board to continue discussions with the School Board regarding this matter.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy to approve the bills and claims for \$58,034.36 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	General Fund	\$37,768.08
	Water Fund	\$ 8,278.67
	Sewer Fund	\$11,987.61

The motion was seconded by Trustee Mellon and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mellon to approve the bills and claims for \$33,121.58 from the following listed funds:

FY 15-16	Water Fund	\$ 33,121.58
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The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

3 Ayes 2 Noes (Mellon, Flynn)

motion carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned to approve the request from the Fire Department to take Engine 428, Rescue 430 and Car 1 to the Orange County Volunteer Fireman's Association Parade on 9/26/15 in Highland Mills.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

No Public comment.

Board comment:

Trustee Murphy suggested a committee be put together to provide recommendations for the placement of the sculpture that was donated to the Village.

Mayor Flynn clarified that the next meeting of the Village Board would be a workshop and that from now on, the first meeting of the month will be a workshop and the second meeting of the month will be a business meeting.

Trustee Aylward motioned to go into executive session.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 9:17 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Farina and unanimously carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:27 P.M.

Trustee Mellon motioned to approve the hire of Konstantinos Fatsis, as Special Counsel to the Mayor, at the cost of \$10,000 to be paid monthly at \$1,250.00 per month from October 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016, and for the position to be looked at before June 1, 2016 to see if the position should continue.

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

4 Ayes 0 Noes 1 Abstain (Murphy)

Motion carried.

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

The meeting closed at 10:31 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk