

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

September 17, 2018

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 17, 2018.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 7:00 P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio
Trustee Brian Aylward
Trustee Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.
Trustee Barbara Murphy
Trustee James Ramus

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Town Councilman, Richard Parry
Approximately 7 community residents

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

Discussion was held on a "Waiver of Liability" form to be signed by participants in a stretching class that will be held in the Senior Center.

Trustee Livsey motioned to approve the Waiver of Liability form to be signed by participants of the stretching class. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the following minutes as written:

Regular Meeting- September 4, 2018

The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
To Authorize the Acceptance and Adoption of the Multi-Jurisdictional
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update For Orange County, New York

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays

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

Trustee Ramus motioned to approve the request from the Consolidated ZBA Chairman to increase escrow fees from \$750.00 to \$1200.00.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Ramus motioned to approve putting "curb your dog" signs in all municipal parking lots on a temporary basis, from October 1, 2018 to May 1, 2019.

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

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain (Livsey) motion carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to authorize Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio, Police Chief Kenneth Scott and Sargent Jason Torpey to sign SLETPP contracts for calendar year 2017, per the recommendation of Police Chief Scott.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Ramus motioned to authorize Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio to sign a contract with Edmunds & Associates for computer system application software to upgrade financial, utility billing, real property and payroll programs.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treat to be held from Memorial Park to Municipal Lot#2, Wednesday, October 31st from 5:45-7:30pm, sponsored by the Town of Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on Property Maintenance and how to try and limit the number of violators of the code for property maintenance. The Village Attorney will pursue changing the local law to include giving appearance tickets to violators with incremental fines for each offense.

Mayor D'Onofrio opened a public hearing at 7:19 P.M. for Notice(s) of Violation and Order to Remedy and Notice(s) of Hearing issued to the following Property Owner(s):

128 Mountain Ave	102-1-31.2
20 Lake Street	103-10-32
117 Center Street	103-20-3
22 Mountain Ave	104-3-31
11 Mountain Ave	104-3-30 (vacant lot)
6 Catherine Street	104-8-8

in violation of the Code of the Village of Highland Falls\Chapter 170-Property Maintenance Code\170-1 Detrimental growth prohibited. There were no owners or representatives present for this property. No further questions or comments from the public. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 P.M.

Trustee Murphy motioned the following:

Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Resolution(s)
Concerning Violation of Property Maintenance at the following location(s):

128 Mountain Ave	102-1-31.2
20 Lake Street	103-10-32
117 Center Street	103-20-3
22 Mountain Ave	104-3-31
11 Mountain Ave	104-3-30 (vacant lot)
6 Catherine Street	104-8-8

The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried. (a true and complete copy of the resolution(s) are appended to these minutes)

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy, to approve the bills and claims for \$97,372.87 from the following listed funds:

General Fund -	\$39,570.10
Water Fund	\$41,036.29
Sewer Fund	<u>\$16,766.48</u>
	\$97,372.87

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Mayor D'Onofrio read a proclamation congratulating Village resident Mady Salvani on her induction into the Army Sports Hall of Fame and thanked her for her local contributions of coaching the youth in our community for many years. Mayor D'Onofrio reported that the north end sidewalk project, funded by a Senator Larkin grant for \$200,000, will have a bid opening on October 2nd.

Trustee Aylward commended Fire Chief Erik Smith on his speech at the 9-11 ceremony last week and how inspirational it was. Trustee Aylward invited everyone to celebrate in The Center's fourth anniversary on Saturday from 11:00am-2:00pm at The Center.

Trustee Livsey commented that he spoke with representatives of DOT about the conditions of the State road into Highland Falls that leads to the Military Academy and that it won't survive two plow jobs this winter. Trustee Livsey spoke out as Village resident Livsey against the "curb your dog" signs in the Municipal parking lots. Mr. Livsey commented that signs need to be enforced and he doesn't feel this will happen.

Trustee Murphy reported that the DOD has finally passed regulations that will allow host communities to partner with their Military Installation neighbors and hopefully this will benefit the relationship with the Village and West Point.

Trustee Ramus presented the Wastewater Treatment Plant report for August 2018 and enlightened the community on many environmental issues and how they can help in the "green" initiative and directed them to the DEC website for good information regarding these matters. Trustee Ramus reported he had spoken to Dr. Sheboy the school superintendent and provided him some information about environmental programs for school children. Trustee Ramus talked about the EPA and reminded the public that it is National Preparedness Month. Trustee Ramus referred the public to the EPA website for more information.

Mr. Ned Kopald, 98 Roe Park, asked the Board questions in reference to cell towers and where one might be located. Mr. Kopald asked if the Board had met with any cell tower companies. Mayor D'Onofrio responded that he had met with a representative of Homeland Towers, but the Board had not met with any company. Mr. Kopald asked if the old Rodway property is being considered and the Mayor responded that wouldn't be feasible because it

is too close to residential properties. Mr. Kopald asked if any studies had been done by the Village. The Mayor responded that the Village has not done any studies.

Mr. Kopald asked what is the status of moving the sheds off of Roe Park. Mr. Kopald commented there may be a public health concern with these sheds as an attraction for rodents and skunks. Mayor D’Onofrio said it will be done, it hasn’t been as easy as he thought it would be.

Kat Degaev, Highland Falls, commented that the public has a right to have their questions answered and she would like to see the Board move towards consolidation, not just vote to do it.

Mr. Jim Modlin, 30 Michel Rd, commented that there seems to be a disconnect with the Board, in that, three Board members knew nothing about the project being undertaken at the sewer plant when the fire broke out. Mr. Modlin commented that he would like to see the Board move towards consolidation after all the facts are gathered and people can make informed decisions.

Mr. Pat Flynn, 1 Muller Ave, commented that he would like to see the topics of cell towers, consolidation and the fire at the sewer plant be put on the next agenda so that people can ask questions on agenda items and get answers to their questions.

Trustee Murphy motioned to enter into executive session for advice of counsel on pending litigation. The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried.

The Board entered executive session at 7:58P.M.

Trustee Aylward motioned to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:15P.M.

Mayor D’Onofrio motioned to authorize the Village Attorney to file an appellate brief in defense of the Article 78 appeal and present the Board with a retainer to do so.

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

2 Ayes and 3 Nays,

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Mayor Joseph E. D’Onofrio	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Trustee Brian Aylward	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Trustee Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Trustee Barbara Murphy	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Trustee James Ramus	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

motion did not carry.

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

The meeting closed at 8:16 P.M

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk