

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

April 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in the Senior Center, 15 Drew Avenue, Highland Falls, New York on April 19, 2021.

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

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D’Onofrio
Trustee Brian Aylward
Trustee James DiSalvo
Trustee Melanie Guerrero
Trustee Gary C. Phillips

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune
Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, John Jones
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
TOH Councilman, Jim Modlin
TOH Councilman, Richard Sullivan
7 Community members

Mayor D’Onofrio opened the meeting and remembered our service members and Community members who have passed away since the last meeting. The meeting was held under the guidelines of Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1 which allows for gatherings with social distancing and wearing masks rule in effect because of the COVID-19 health crisis.

A public hearing, as duly advertised, was opened at 7:02pm to hear comments on the proposed local law titled “Modifying Chapter 207 of the Code of the Village of Highland Falls, Entitled, Subdivision of Land, To Regulate Lot Line Changes”. Village Attorney Alyse Terhune summarized the local law and explained that the Village Code does not currently have guidance on lot line changes and this law will do that. The Attorney also commented that this law is similar to the Town Code regarding lot line changes. There were no public comments.

Trustee Aylward motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and on a roll call vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, motion carried. The public hearing closed at 7:03p.m.

A public hearing, as duly advertised, was opened at 7:04p.m. to hear comments on the proposed local law titled “Adding a New Chapter 78 Entitled “Community Choice Aggregation (Energy) Program to the Code of the Village of Highland Falls”. Mayor D’Onofrio commented that this local law is similar to one passed a few weeks ago by the Town Board. A representative of the program commented that this will allow the municipality and residents to possibly get lower energy rates by being members of the aggregate. The representative explained it is an “opt out” program and that can be done anytime at no cost. There were no public comments.

Trustee Aylward motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Mayor D’Onofrio and on a roll call vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, motion carried. The public hearing closed at 7:06p.m.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting- April 5, 2021
Special Meeting- April 5, 2021 -reorganization

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve the following minutes:

Special Meeting – April 16, 2021-executive session

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

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain (DiSalvo)

Trustee Guerrero motioned the following:

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO.1 OF 2021
MODIFYING CHAPTER 207 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND
FALLS, ENTITLED, SUBDIVISION OF LAND, TO REGULATE LOT LINE CHANGES

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward 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 the minutes)

Trustee Guerrero motioned the following:

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO.2 OF 2021, TITLED,
A LOCAL LAW ADDING CHAPTER 78 ENTITLED “COMMUNITY CHOICE
AGGREGATION (ENERGY) PROGRAM” TO THE CODE OF THE
VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays

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

Amendments to the Village of Highland Falls Annual Reorganization Meeting are as follows:

Trustee Phillips moved the one year appointment be approved: Bog Meadow Caretakers William Baran, Randy Meche, James Titolo and Michael Slapp.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward moved the approval of the following:

Discrimination/Harassment Committee: Detective Kleveno, Trustee Guerrero and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Ana Sierra.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward, moved that, after review, the previously adopted written investment policy be continued.

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

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

Trustee Guerrero moved that, after review, the previously adopted procurement policy be continued.

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned to accept the bid from Jesse Marvin, dba 2DogsHotDogs, for \$300.00 for a permit to use a Vendor Space in Municipal lot#2, pending the bid amount and all necessary insurance papers are turned into the Village Clerk.

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

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
FY 2020-2021 Budget Amendment
Insurance Recovery

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips 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 DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution to Relevy
Unpaid Water Bills
For: May/Nov 2020

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips 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 DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution to Relevy
Unpaid Sewer Bills
For: Jun/Dec 2020

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips 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 Aylward motioned to terminate DPW Laborer Dwayne McQueen, effective April 21, 2021, for failure to satisfactorily complete his probationary period, per the recommendation of interim street superintendent, John Jones.

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for FY20-21 for \$111,249.57 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$41,989.49
Water Fund	\$35,011.87
Sewer Fund	\$26,719.94
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 7,528.27</u>
	\$111,249.57

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Mayor D'Onofrio set a budget workshop for Monday, April 26th at 4:30p.m. at the Senior Center.

Mayor D'Onofrio asked the Village Board if they were interested in paying the LA Group to write different grants that have come out which would aid in the development of scenic trails along the property formerly known as the Aloe Property, now owned by Scenic Hudson.

A motion was made by Trustee DiSalvo to hire the LA Group, for an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00, to write grants that will provide funding to help in the development of scenic trails.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the cost of the Communications Department and the possibility of going to the Orange County 911 system.

Discussion was held on whether to use the outside vendor, CGR, to complete the Police Consolidation study or have an inhouse committee do it.

Mayor D'Onofrio named a committee of Trustee Guerrero, Trustee Aylward, Councilman Jim Modlin, Councilman Ty King, Sergeant Jason Torpey and TOH Police Chief Pierri.

Trustee DiSalvo commented that a professional study should be done.

Trustee Guerrero suggested that both be done.

Mayor D'Onofrio commented that there are safety concerns about giving up our own dispatch department and the other services provided to our residents. Mayor D'Onofrio assured the public the Board will be deliberate in its decision making and that the Board and is not taking this issue lightly.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 8:25P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk