

**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR  
GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW ARTICLE 17-A DISSOLUTION PROCEDURE**

**WHEREAS**, on July 1, 2021, the Village Clerk of the Village of Highland Falls received a Petition to Dissolve the Village of Highland Falls pursuant to Article 17-A of the General Municipal Law; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 9, 2021, the Village Clerk certified that the Petition substantially conformed with the form provided in GML § 779 and that a sufficient number of signatures of the voters permitted to vote in Highland Falls were affixed to the Petition to initiate the procedure to dissolve the Village of Highland Falls; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board is now obligated by Law to initiate the Dissolution procedure, which entails an initial analysis of the potential impact of said proposed Dissolution on Village residents such that the Village residents shall be aware of said potential impacts of Dissolution prior to the referendum vote; and

**WHEREAS**, in the short time between the Certification of the Petition and this meeting, the Mayor has endeavored to contact other Villages that have proceeded through the GML 17-A process in order to ascertain the cost of providing Village residents an accurate and unbiased accounting of potential financial impacts as well as to services traditionally provided by Village government and employees including, but not limited to, water, sewer, police, highway and local zoning control; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the limited information now known, other villages have expended between approximately \$70,000 where a voter-initiated dissolution failed and \$113,500 thus far to implement a voter-initiated dissolution that succeeded; and

**WHEREAS**, since time is of the essence, the Board of Trustees hereby finds and determines that moneys should be appropriated immediately to fund the initial analysis heretofore mentioned in an amount to assure that the Village residents shall be afforded all possible knowledge before they cast their vote to approve or disapprove the dissolution of the Village of Highland Falls and, if dissolved, their sole control over its governance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees hereby appropriates a sum not to exceed one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) for the purpose of retaining consulting, legal, engineering and communication expertise and such other incidental expenses as may be reasonably associated with compliance with the procedures contained in Article 17-A of the General Municipal Law that governs the dissolution of villages in New York State, said funds to be used to educate the Village Residents prior to the referendum vote and, if dissolved, to prepare a dissolution plan.

On a motion by Trustee DiSalvo, seconded by Trustee Phillips, the Resolution was declared as adopted on a roll call vote of 3 ayes, 2 nays,

Mayor D'Onofrio	<u>  x  </u> Aye	<u>    </u> Nay
Trustee Aylward	<u>    </u> Aye	<u>  x  </u> Nay
Trustee DiSalvo	<u>  x  </u> Aye	<u>    </u> Nay
Trustee Guerrero	<u>    </u> Aye	<u>  x  </u> Nay
Trustee Phillips	<u>  x  </u> Aye	<u>    </u> Nay

Dated: July 19, 2021

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Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk of the Village of Highland Falls, does hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution of the Board of Trustees was filed in my office on the following date:

Regina M Taylor      7/20/2021  
Signature and Date