

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
July 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held at the Senior Center, 15 Drew Avenue, Highland Falls, New York on July 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
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
TOH Councilman, Jim Modlin
Approximately 35 Community members

Mayor D'Onofrio opened the meeting and remembered our service members and Community members who have passed away since the last meeting.

Comments on agenda items:

Olga Anderson, 78 Ondaora Pkwy, asked the Board if the MOA's are being resurrected. Ms. Anderson commented that she thought the MOA's were not going to be approved. Mayor D'Onofrio responded that the answer would be given later in the meeting.

Michael Joyce, Eagle Valley, commented that questions should be answered.

Mayor D'Onofrio opened a public hearing at 7:05P.M. for Notice(s) of Violation and Order to Remedy and Notice(s) of Hearing issued to the following Property Owner(s):

10 Muller Avenue	103-19-9	65 Center Street	103-21-9.2
9 Ft Putnam Street	103-6-14	47 Ondaora Pkwy	106-2-7

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 these properties. No further questions or comments from the public.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried. The Public Hearing closed at 7:06P.M.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

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

10 Muller Avenue	103-19-9	65 Center Street	103-21-9.2
9 Ft Putnam Street	103-6-14	47 Ondaora Pkwy	106-2-7

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 resolutions is appended to these minutes).

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting- June 21, 2021

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the Transfer of \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Workers Compensation Fund to replenish the fund, per the recommendation of the Village Treasurer.

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request from the Highland Falls PBA to hold a "National Night Out" event in Municipal Lot#2 on August 3, 2021 from 5:00pm -8:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to complete the probation of Sergeant Robert Ruger per the recommendation of OIC Jason Torpey.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to complete the probation of Full Time Police Officer Richard Santiago per the recommendation of OIC Jason Torpey.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the request from the TOH Recreation Director to hold a Men’s Softball Tournament on August 21, 2021 and a Co-Ed Softball Tournament on August 28, 2021 on the Roe Park field from 7:00am-7:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned to approve the request from the HFFMCSD to use Roe Park Baseball Field for O’Neill HS Varsity, JV and Modified baseball teams from March 14, 2022 through June 15, 2022 pending the proper insurance certificates are turned into the Village Clerk before the use of the park begins.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the Engineering Stormwater Proposal for Ondaora Park and Satterlee Grove Stormwater Pipe Replacement Project. Trustee DiSalvo commented that any construction of a stormwater system will need to be bonded. Mayor D’Onofrio commented that the engineering proposal before them would be paid out of the general fund.

Trustee Aylward motioned to accept the proposal from J. Robert Folchetti & Associates for \$147,840.00 for engineering services fees and related matters required for preparation of Ondaora Park and Satterlee Grove Stormwater Pipe Replacement Project.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Engineering Proposal for the Ondaora Park Sewer Main Lining Project. Trustee DiSalvo asked how the project will be funded. Trustee Guerrero commented that with the road open for water line replacement, this would be a good time to take care of the sewer lines. Mayor D’Onofrio commented that the engineering proposal before them would be paid out of the current sewer fund.

Trustee Aylward motioned to accept the proposal from J. Robert Folchetti & Associates for \$132,000.00 for engineering services fees and related matters required for preparation of Ondaora Park Sewer Main Lining Project.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to appoint Ryan Kresback to the position of Part time Water Plant Operator, at \$25.00/hr with maximum probation, effective Tuesday July 20, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5Ayes 0Nays motion carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned that a 1996 Johnson Sweeper and a Grimmer Schmidt portable air compressor be declared surplus and put out to auction, as recommended by Interim Street Superintendent John Jones.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation’s
Environmental Protection Fund Grants Program for Parks,
Preservation and Heritage 2021 Consolidated Funding Application

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

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Mayor Joseph E. D’Onofrio	x	
Trustee Brian Aylward	x	
Trustee James DiSalvo	x	
Trustee Melanie Guerrero	x	
Trustee Gary C. Phillips	x	

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted. (A true and complete copy of the resolution is appended to these minutes.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve HFFD member John Galati, pending the results of his physical, per the recommendation of Fire Chief Steve Suarez.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
5Ayes 0Nays motion carried.

Discussion was held on the PBA Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) ratification. Mayor D’Onofrio explained that the negotiating teams agreed to go back to the table. The MOA’s before them have only a 2% increase in salary schedules for FY 2020 and FY 2021 for Full time Police, Full time Dispatchers and Part time Police, with the Part time Police also getting an increase for FY 2021 in night differential to bring them equal to the night differential rate of Full time Police. Mayor D’Onofrio explained all other requests by the PBA had been removed from these MOA’s. Both negotiating teams agreed to look ahead to the next contract negotiations in the next few months.

Trustee Guerrero commented that this was the first time she saw this MOA and wanted more time for review.

Trustee Aylward commented that by approving these MOA’s the PBA will pull the PERB complaint and the Village will save money by not having to go through a PERB process.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to ratify the 6/25/21 Final Memorandum of Agreements between the Village of Highland Falls and the Highland Falls Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association, Inc. for the Full-time Police Officers, Full-time Dispatchers and Part-time Police Officers.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
4 Ayes 1 Nay (Guerrero) motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for FY20-21 for \$55,505.88 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$35,511.59
Water Fund	\$ 1,669.09
Sewer Fund	<u>\$18,325.20</u>
	\$55,505.88

and bills and claims for FY21-22 for \$961,742.55 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$ 76,602.00
Section 8	\$ 75,363.00
Water Fund	\$ 28,249.52
Sewer Fund	\$ 7,277.62
Capital Fund	<u>\$774,250.41</u>
	\$961,742.55

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

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

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and was declared as adopted on a roll call vote of 3 ayes, 2 nays as follows:

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

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION APPOINTING LABERGE GROUP SPECIAL CONSULTANT FOR THE INITIAL ANALYSIS
OF THE IMPACT OF DISSOLUTION
ON THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and was declared as adopted on a roll call vote of 3 ayes, 2 nays as follows:

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

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

Mayor D'Onofrio commented on different projects that are ongoing, mentioned three new businesses which have opened up and reported that August 9th will be a special meeting of the Board to set the referendum date for village dissolution.

Trustee Aylward commented that he voted no on the resolutions that were passed because he would like more information. Trustee Aylward commented that its important for residents to have knowledge before they vote.

Trustee Guerrero commented that the petitions were about giving people an opportunity to vote and have their voices be heard. Trustee Guerrero commented that it is about saving money and not to be vindictive.

Trustee Phillips reported that the Bog Meadow reservoir is down only 10%, which is very good for this time of year. Trustee Phillips reported a water main was tapped on Center Street and that caused some discoloration for a little while, but should be fine after a few hours. Trustee Phillips reminded residents to please pick up after their dogs.

Public Comment:

Martha Aylward, 13 Church St, commented that non -lifetime residents should have the same considerations as others in regard to the opinion of dissolution and there should be civility. Mrs. Aylward commented that taxes are too high for this small a community and there should only be one set of taxes.

Frank Lilos, Fort Montgomery, commented that people signed the petition not knowing what it means. Mr. Lilos remarked that money for a study is money well spent. Mr. Lilos thanked the Board for ratifying the MOA's.

Michael Joyce, Eagle Valley, commented that he would like more accountability for his tax money.

Kat Dagaev, Weyant Green, commented that they have a right to get answers. Ms. Dagaev remarked that the Board ran on consolidation and dissolution and because the Board hasn't followed through, they were forced to petition for dissolution.

Jeff Gathers, TOH Ambulance Captain, asked the Board to consider letting them paint numbers on the north end sidewalks for vendor spots for the Fall Foliage Festival.

Olga Anderson, 78 Ondaora Pkwy, commented that she would like more clarification on matters before the referendum vote takes place.

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

The meeting closed at 8:41P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk