

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
October 3, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in the Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, New York on October 3, 2022.

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, Esq.
Village Engineer, Todd Atkinson, P.E.
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
News of the Highlands Editor, Mary Jane Pitt
Clint Smith, Radio Frequency Expert for the Village of Highland Falls
Approximately 11 Community Residents

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 CDC and Orange County Department of Health recommendations.

Clint Smith – (Village Radio Frequency Expert-) introduced himself as a consultant for the Village of Highland Falls and gave a brief presentation on his credentials and how he is reviewing all the documents from Verizon related to the installation of cell antennas on the Village Hall at 303 Main Street, the Senior Center at 15 Drew Avenue and the TOH DPW garage at 1530 Route 9W and providing recommendations to the Village Board.

Todd Atkinson, Village Engineer, P.E. reported to the Village Board that he is awaiting a structural engineering report from Verizon to ensure the Village Hall will be able to support the redesign of the antenna equipment on the roof.

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for \$894,380.73 from the following listed funds:

FY22-23:	General Fund	\$20,884.64
	Section 8	\$68,256.00
	Water Fund	\$58,926.67
	Sewer Fund	\$ 2,869.30
	Capital Fund	<u>\$743,444.12</u>
		\$894,380.73

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the following minutes as written:

Regular Meeting September 19, 2022
Special Meeting September 19, 2022
Special Meeting September 29, 2022

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution Commencing the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)
Process Regarding Proposal To Install and Operate A New Communications Facility
On Town Of Highlands Property At 1530 Route 9W

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

	<u>5</u> Ayes <u>0</u> Nays
Trustee Gary Phillips	<u> x</u>
Trustee Melanie Guerrero	<u> x</u>
Trustee James DiSalvo	<u> x</u>
Trustee Brian Aylward	<u> x</u>
Mayor Joseph D’Onofrio	<u> x</u>

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to authorize Mayor D'Onofrio to sign the letter of Adoption of Intent to be Lead Agency for the purpose of conducting SEQR on the request from the Town Board to exempt the DPW wireless tower from Village zoning.

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 appoint Lynae Mesaris full time account clerk, from the Certified List of Eligibles from Orange County Civil Service, effective October 4, 2022 @\$20.00/hr with maximum probation of 52 weeks.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned the following:

Resolution
Vehicle and Traffic
Village of Highland Falls
delete handicap space-55 Schneider Ave.

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays motion carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the request from Police Chief Dreyer to adjust the pay rate of PO Vincent Biele to step 5 of the Part time Police Collective Bargaining Agreement, \$29.60/hr, effective to his appointment date of September 15, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to deny the PBA's request to approve Detective Kleveno's request for a buy-back of 10 vacation days due to Detective Kleveno not being eligible for a buy back based on Section 703, vacation buy back, of the employee handbook.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned to accept the resignation of PT Police Officer Michael Sink effective September 27, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the request of the Town of Highlands United Youth to hold a Community Thank You to Our 1st Responders-Sunday, October 16, 2022, at Roe Park, from 1:00pm-6:00pm, with DJ music and request to waive live entertainment permit fee.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to authorize Mayor D'Onofrio to sign the Civil Rights Certification form for the HUD Choice Voucher Program for fiscal year beginning 01/01/2023.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to authorize Mayor D'Onofrio to sign the Electricity Supply Agreement between Competitive Supplier, Joule Assets Inc and the Village of Highland Falls.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to authorize Mayor D'Onofrio to sign the Grant Disbursement Agreement between the Village of Highland Falls and the Empire State Development for the Highland Falls Flagship Development Restore IV project #AB766, upon review by the Village Attorney, and any necessary paperwork to move the project forward.

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

4 Ayes 1 Nay (Guerrero) motion carried.

Mellard Jennings, 5 O'Neill Court, asked the Board if street lights that have been out could be fixed and to ask the Board to look at a prescriptive easement for a drainage pipe on his property located at 6 Sweezy Avenue because it is preventing him from developing on his property.

Mayor D'Onofrio responded to Mr. Jennings that he is aware of the street lights being out and has asked the police to provide him a list for reporting to Orange & Rockland for repair. Mayor D'Onofrio responded that he will be meeting with the Village Engineer to discuss the drainage pipe.

Michael Joyce, 12 Eagle Valley Rd. asked the Board if there are any fines if the water plant does not have a licensed operator and when does the Village expect the hotel to be built at 479 Main St.

Pablo Pulido, 13 Edward Street, Village employee, came before the Village Board on behalf of the DPW Union members and asked when the applications that were recently submitted will be acted on and that he personally left a letter in each Trustees' mailbox regarding training for a water license.

Ray Deveraux, 48 Ondaora Parkway, asked the Board for a follow-up response to two letters he previously submitted to the Board in regards to the sound system used to broadcast meetings and the need for improvement.

Mayor D'Onofrio responded that he is looking into a possible system for the renovated Senior Center so meetings can be held there.

Ron Malecot, 7 Parry Avenue, asked if the handicap spot at 12 Parry Avenue can be removed since there is no handicap person living nearby. Mr. Malecot commented to the Board that the parking spot at 8 Parry Avenue is too big and has caused a shortage of spaces to park on the street. Mr. Malecot commented that the Board should look at increasing housing opportunities and not mixed used buildings to encourage more growth.

James Ramus, 31 Liberty Street, inquired if there is any idea when the development at 479 Main Street was going to start. Mr. Ramus brought to the attention of the Board some assessment reductions that have occurred that results in a reduction of the tax revenue and increases the tax burden on property owners to make up for these reductions.

Trustee Phillips motioned to enter executive session for discussion on a specific individual in a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The Village Board entered executive session at 8:13 P.M.

Mayor D'Onofrio motioned to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:52 P.M. No Board action was taken.

Mayor D'Onofrio motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 8:52P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk