

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
January 9, 2023

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 January 9, 2023.

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
Clint Smith, Cell Tower Consultant for Village
Michael Crosby, Verizon Representative
Scott Olson, Verizon Representative
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan
Approximately 18 Community members

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

A motion was made by Trustee Aylward to approve the bills and claims for FY22-23 for \$392,514.59 from the following listed funds:

General Fund	\$206,650.80
Section 8	\$ 64,995.00
Water Fund	\$ 23,954.65
Capital Fund	\$ 3,111.34
Sewer Fund	<u>\$ 93,802.80</u>
	\$392,514.59

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned to approve the following minutes:
Regular Meeting December 5, 2022

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 following minutes:
Special Meeting December 27, 2022

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
4 Ayes 0 Nay 1 Abstain (Trustee Guerrero) motion carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned to approve the following minutes:
Special Meeting January 3, 2023

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:
4 Ayes 0 Nay 1 Abstain (Trustee Guerrero) motion carried

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to recognize the Firematic Officers for CY2023- Fire Chief Erik Smith, Assistant Fire Chief Patrick Kelly, Captain Steven Suarez, 1st Lieutenant Nicholas Rush, 2nd Lieutenant Alexandria Lennon, Deputy Chief John Rush.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to surplus the following equipment and hoses per the recommendation of the Fire Chief Erik Smith:

- Dewalt Cordless Drill and Trim Saw >10 years old and obsolete 18V batteries
- Stand Lights from the 1995 Rescue Pumper broken replaced with cordless Dewalt Lights that cost 10X less.
- Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera Handles from Equipment we no longer own.
- Metal tool box-damaged unusable
- Portable Air Compressor-unserviceable
- Akron Brass-Akromatic 2 ½ “ Automatic Nozzle-unserviceable
- Fire Extinguishers :
 - a) 1 small ABC Extinguisher-Unserviceable
 - b) 3 CO2 Extinguishers-No longer in use
 - c) 1 pressurized water extinguisher-damaged beyond repair
 - d) type K Commercial Kitchen Extinguisher-surplus expensive to recharge

- Hose Failed Hose Tests:
 - a) 4 75’ lengths of 2” hose
 - b) 1 100’ length of 5” supply hose
 - c) 1 40’ length of 5” (Hydrant Length)
 - d) 2 50’ lengths of 1 ¾ “ hose
 - e) 3 50’ lengths of 2 ½ “ hose

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Mayor D’Onofrio commented that he would inform Fire Chief Erik Smith that his request to form a committee to specify a replacement fire engine for the 1995 Spartan/Saulsbury Rescue is approved.

Public comment was held on two resolutions before the Board.

Barbara Fallon, 25 Main Street, presented a letter on behalf of the Town Little League Association asking that the Board postpone any vote until more information is provided.

Sharon Guy, 13 Pellwood Lake, commented that she would like the vote postponed until more information can be provided.

Deborah Kopald, Ft Montgomery, commented with concerns for radio emissions and asked the Board to postpone any vote on this issue.

Ned Kopald, 98 Roe Ave. commented that he was concerned with the location of the antennas being close proximity of the Park and Little League Field.

The Village Attorney explained that the resolutions before the Board were the result of the Town of Highlands asking for an exemption to the zoning code and allowing them to move forward with Verizon in a possible cell antenna being located at the Town of Highlands highway garage, which property is located in the Village, but owned by the Town of Highlands. The Village Attorney explained that the Village is the only agency that can be the lead agency under SEQRA regulations regarding this matter.

Trustee Aylward motioned the following:

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
 COUNTY OF ORANGE
 STATE OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION GRANTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO THE NEW YORK STATE
 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) REGARDING PROPOSED
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 1530 ROUTE 9W IN THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS

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

4 Ayes 1 Nay

Trustee Aylward	x	
Trustee DiSalvo	x	
Trustee Guerrero		x
Trustee Phillips	x	
Mayor D’Onofrio	x	

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

The Village’s consultant, Clint Smith, addressed the Village Board and explained to them and the public that he has reviewed all the technical documents that Verizon has supplied regarding coverage and capacity and the levels of emissions. Mr. Smith confirmed that Verizon meets all the Federal regulations and is below acceptable levels. Mr. Smith explained the need for the TOH site to help with the two sites in the Village to provide adequate coverage to southern portions of the Village.

Verizon’s representative Scott Olson also addressed the Village Board to confirm that Verizon meets the Federal Regulations regarding emissions. Mr. Olson commented that the contract on the matter is with the Town of Highlands.

Trustee DiSalvo commented that on page 8, Section 8 of the resolution, an independent company provided the compliance report for this site.

Trustee Guerrero commented that she thinks the length of the contract needs more clarity and that the Town should be able to control the length, not Verizon.

Trustee Aylward motioned the following:

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS
COUNTY OF ORANGE
STATE OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY
FROM ZONING PURSUANT TO SECTION 240-29(V)(2.1)(C) OF THE VILLAGE CODE

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

4 Ayes 1 Nay

Trustee Aylward	x	
Trustee DiSalvo	x	
Trustee Guerrero		x
Trustee Phillips	x	
Mayor D’Onofrio	x	

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to complete the probation of Water Maintenance Worker Pablo Pulido, effective December 23, 2022. The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to complete the probation of Police Officer Tyler Vecchio, effective December 21, 2022. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned the following:

Resolution
Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees
Provisional Appointment of John Jones to the position of
Village of Public Works Superintendent

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

4 Ayes 1 Nay

Trustee Aylward	x	
Trustee DiSalvo	x	
Trustee Guerrero		x
Trustee Phillips	x	
Mayor D’Onofrio	x	

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

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to authorize Mayor D’Onofrio to sign Certification of Community Water System Emergency Response Plan in Compliance with America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried.

Trustee Aylward motioned to approve the Martin Luther King Parade and Service on Monday, January 16, 2023 from Cozzens Avenue to Memorial Park, 10:30am to 12:30pm.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to reschedule the Monday January 16th meeting to Tuesday January 17th at 7:00pm in Village Hall due to the Martin Luther King Holiday.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Trustee Phillips motioned the appointment of James Titolo to the Consolidated Planning Board with the term to expire December 31, 2027, as recommended by Mayor D’Onofrio.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Aylward and unanimously carried.

Mayor D’Onofrio read a letter of resignation from Police Chief Dreyer with an effective date of February 15, 2023. Mayor D’Onofrio commented that the Board would decide the end date.

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

The Board entered executive session at 8:16pm.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned out of executive session and to enter the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Phillips and unanimously carried. The Regular meeting reconvened at 8:18pm.

Trustee Phillips motioned to accept the letter of resignation from Police Chief Dreyer with regret. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

Public comment:

Norman DeYoung, 11 Walker Rd, asked the Board if there was any movement on the new hotel or the bank that is up for sale. The Mayor commented that the Board has heard nothing on these matters.

Pablo Pulido, 13 Edwards Street, asked the Board for reimbursement of mileage from a recent training trip to Buffalo.

James Ramus, 31 Liberty Street, asked if there was an update on the parking issue for the proposed north end hotel. The Mayor commented that the Board has heard nothing on this matter.

Board comments:

Trustee Guerrero led a discussion regarding putting a proposition of the ballot for the March Election to have Village elections after April 2023 be conducted by the Orange County Board of Elections. Mayor D’Onofrio commented that a formal resolution will be written up for the next Village Board meeting and the proposition approved to be put on the March ballot.

Mayor D’Onofrio motioned that Trustee Guerrero work with Greenspot on the process to install an EV charging station in Municipal Lot#2.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

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

The meeting closed at 8:41 P.M.

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk