

SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS  
March 18, 2024

A Special 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 March 18, 2024

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing for the Franchise Agreement granting a Cable Television Franchise Agreement between the village of Highland Falls and Spectrum North, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio  
Trustee James Ramus  
Trustee James DiSalvo  
Trustee Melanie Guerrero  
Trustee Peter Carroll

Also, present were:

Village Clerk, Lynae Mesaris  
Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune  
Camera Operator, Sean Lackhan  
News of the Highlands, Mary Jane Pitt  
Council Member, Joseph DeWitt  
Approximately 27 Community Members

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

Trustee Ramus made a motion to open the public hearing on the Franchise Agreement with Spectrum North LLC. The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

A Public Hearing, as advertised, was opened at 7:00P.M. for receiving input on the Franchise Agreement with Spectrum North LLC.

Highland Falls resident questioned if the Village gets paid from the Franchise fee being paid.

Mayor D'Onofrio commented the Village receives 5%.

Katherine Dagaev – Highland Falls resident questioned if the Village has looked into any other companies. Mayor D'Onofrio commented, FIOS.

Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune commented that the contract has to be approved by the Public Service Commission. Ms. Terhune has already negotiated from a 15 - year to a 10 - year contract.

Trustee Guerrero inquired what would happen if the contract was not renewed.

Village Attorney, Alyse Terhune commented that the Village would continue under the old contract.

Mary Jane Pitt – Resident of Highland Falls commented (First time in 35 years) that three people in her family work from home. Her family uses Spectrum. She wishes to keep Spectrum or feels if we jeopardized their business with us, we would be in trouble.

Trustee Guerrero commented that we need real data. For instance, how much is the village receiving and how much is the village paying.

Trustee DiSalvo commented we have a revenue line in the amount of \$70,000.00 for the franchise.

Trustee Ramus motioned to close the public hearing for the Franchise Agreement granting a Cable Television Franchise Agreement between the Village of Highland Falls and Spectrum North, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications.

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and unanimously carried.

The public hearing closed at 7:32P.M.

Trustee Ramus made a motion on the following:

**RESOLUTION**  
**Village of Highland Falls**  
**County of Orange**  
**In the Matter of Granting of Cable Television Franchise**  
**Held by Spectrum Northeast, LLC in the**  
**Village of Highland Falls, County of Orange, New York**

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and on a roll call vote. The results follow:  
(A true and complete copy of this resolution is appended to these minutes.)

**4 Ayes**    **1 Nays**

<b>Trustee Carroll</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>Trustee DiSalvo</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>Trustee Guerrero</b>		<b>x</b>
<b>Trustee Ramus</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>Mayor D’Onofrio</b>	<b>x</b>	

Mayor D’Onofrio invited residents to address public comment on agenda items.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the bills and claims for FY23-24 for **\$1,983,047.46** from the following listed funds:

General Fund:	\$ 146,517.15
Water Fund	\$ 18,981.42
Sewer Fund	\$ 326,974.56
Capital Fund	\$ <u>1,490,574.33</u>
Total	\$ <b>1,983,047.46</b>

The highest bills:    A-Tech - \$404,575.00 – Parking Lot Repair  
Arold Const. : \$1,053,151.37 - Ondaora Potable Water  
Eventus Const.: \$326,325.18 - WWTP Generator & Digestor  
J. Robert Folchetti: \$138,327.50 - Ondaora Stormwater/ Water Main Const

The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll and on a roll call vote. The results follow:

**4 Ayes:** Trustee Ramus, Trustee DiSalvo, Trustee Carroll, Mayor D’Onofrio, **1 Nays** Trustee Guerrero

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the following minutes:  
Regular Board Meeting – March 4, 2024

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the following minutes:  
Special Meeting – March 4, 2024

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and on a roll call vote. The results follow: **4 Ayes:** Trustee Guerrero, Trustee DiSalvo, Trustee Carroll, Mayor D’Onofrio, **1 Abstain** Trustee Ramus

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve the following minutes  
1<sup>st</sup> Budget Meeting – March 2, 2024

The motion was seconded by Trustee Ramus and unanimously carried.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve the following minutes  
2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Meeting March 6, 2024

The motion was seconded by Trustee DiSalvo and on a roll call vote. The results follow: **4 Ayes:** Trustee Ramus, Trustee DiSalvo, Trustee Carroll, Trustee Guerrero, **1 Abstain** Mayor D’Onofrio

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve to set the public hearing for the tentative budget FY 24-25 on April 1, 2024 at 6:30P.M.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

Trustee motioned to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$10,000.00 from General Fund to Workers Compensation Account.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Ramus and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION**  
**Village of Highland Falls Board of Trustees**  
**FY2023-2024 Budget Amendment**

This is to increase the appropriation budget G-8130-0400 Sewer Plant Contractual for \$326,325.18 and the revenue code G-5990.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Ramus and unanimously carried.

5 Ayes 0 Nays

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve closing Village Hall on Friday, March 22, 2024, in an effort to pack and relocate records.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll and unanimously carried.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve Highland Falls Police Department to participate in the Orange County Stop DWI Traffic Safety Programs from March 10, 2024 – January 1, 2025.

**RESOLUTION**  
**Village of Highland Falls**  
**Intermunicipal Agreement**  
**Stop DWI Traffic Safety Program**

The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll and unanimously carried.

(A copy of this Agreement is appended to these minutes.)

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the mayor to sign the Stop DWI Safety Program Agreement.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll and unanimously carried.

Trustee Guerrero motioned to approve to complete probation for Police Chief, Jason Torpey.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Ramus and unanimously carried.

Trustee DiSalvo motioned to approve the First Amendment to the Shared Service Agreement between the Village of Highland Falls and the Town of Highlands.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Guerrero and unanimously carried.

The Mayor and Trustees presented their reports.

The Mayor invited the public for comments.

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

The meeting closed at 8:49 P.M.

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Lynae Mesaris, Village Clerk