

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, December 3rd, 2012, beginning at 8:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- Present
	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Present
	Mayor Kohut	- Present

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the meeting with the first Public Participation inviting the public to ask questions or make comments.

Larry Singer, Castle Court, Thiells, NY: Mr. Singer has been a teacher at North Rockland High School for 35 years and is currently the only Trustee from the Town of Haverstraw on the Board of the Rockland County Historical Society. He informed everyone that the Historical Society has done five historical bus tours to each of the Towns in the County this year that were very successful. He was most proud, however, when they did the historical tour of Haverstraw, which was the only time the bus was completely filled, making it necessary to do a second tour three weeks later at which time the bus was filled to capacity once again. For the first time in 4 years, they decided to conduct a house tour and chose the Village of Haverstraw as their destination, and once again, the tour was extremely successful. He stated that a great part of its success was due to Mayor Kohut, who is also a member of the committee. Mr. Singer attended the meeting that night to thank the Mayor, the Board and the Village for their hospitality throughout the tour. He felt he had to let the Board know how much pleasure everyone got visiting the Village, which received nothing but positive comments from everyone on the tour. He also mentioned the names of numerous local businesses from throughout the Village, who either participated in, or took full-page ads, in their Historical Society Book for 2012. He also mentioned that there is no other town or village in the county that has more history than the Village of Haverstraw and invited everyone to become a member of the Historical Society. He stated that the society does numerous things throughout the year that he feels would be of interest to many of the Village residents. They are planning twelve bus tours during 2013, three of which they have never done before, including a tour of all churches throughout the County 200 years or older, a cemetery tour appropriately being scheduled for some time October and a pipe organ tour. Anyone interested can get information on their website rocklandhistory.org. He again thanked the Mayor and the Board for all their help and input and presented the Board with a copy of the 2012 Historical Society Book, which gives a history of all the places the two tours visited in the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reiterated that these tours are a wonderful way to see places and things that the public would otherwise not have access to. It also affords everyone the opportunity to ask questions and get information from knowledgeable people throughout the County. He encouraged everyone to delve into history by becoming a member or taking the tours offered by the Historical Society.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine was very appreciative and thanked the Board for taking care of most of the things that he has requested of the Board. He again mentioned the need for “STOP” signs or “speed traps” in the area of the overpass exit to keep people from coming off the overpass and going right through the “STOP” signs and then speeding off down the street.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport complimented the Board on how nice the Village is looking for the holidays. Mr. Rappaport then thanked the Mayor for having the streetlight on Clove Avenue taken care of.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor thanked Mr. Rappaport for noticing the great job that the DPW has done with decorating the Village for the upcoming holiday season. He then mentioned that the Village had a very successful “Holidays in Haverstraw” with a nice crowd gathering for the tree lighting at the Village Clock Square. He also took this opportunity to thank the Village Chamber of Commerce for the work they do in organizing everything in the Village for that day. He then mentioned all the activities and restaurant specials that went on that day from morning till night, stating that it was a good day and brought many visitors into the Village. He requested Mr. Rappaport to extend the Board’s thanks to the members of the Chamber.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor announced the following appointments to be approved by the Board as part of the Village’s reorganization process:

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Jay Nelson Hood, Jr., Esq to the position of **Village Attorney** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #279-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Edye McCarthy to the position of **Village Assessor** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #280-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Brooker Engineering as the **Village Engineers** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #281-2012

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Steven Cobb to the position of **Village Historian** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #282-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Louis Torres to the position of **Acting Village Justice** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #283-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Jessie Oms-Mendez to the position of **Clerk to the Justice Court** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #284-2012

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Toni Jones to the position of **Associate Court Clerk** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #285-2012

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint the Fire Chief to the position of **Director of Disaster Preparedness** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #286-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint the 1st Assistant Fire Chief to the position of **Deputy Director of Disaster Preparedness** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #287-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Judith Curcio to the position of **Registrar of Vital Statistics** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #288-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Damaris Torres to the position of **Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #289-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Jency Peralta to the position of **Planning Board Member**, replacing Peter McGuire whose term has expired and whose resignation from the Planning Board has been accepted by the Village Board. Mr. Peralta's term will expire November 30th, 2017.

RESOLUTION #290-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Thomas Watson, Sr. to the position of **Planning Board Chairperson** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #291-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Abstain: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Edwin Rivera to the position of **Zoning Board Member** for a term to expire on November 30th, 2017.

RESOLUTION #292-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Edwin Rivera to the position of **Zoning Board Chairperson** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #293-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Jean Gitlin to the position of **Architectural Review Board Member** for a term to expire November 30th, 2015.

RESOLUTION #294-2012

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Jean Gitlin to the position of **Architectural Review Board Chairperson** for a one year term.

RESOLUTION #295-2012

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month for regular meetings of the Village Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION #296-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the 1st Thursday of each month as the meeting date for the Planning Board.

RESOLUTION #297-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the 2nd Thursday of each month as the meeting date for the Zoning Board.

RESOLUTION #298-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the last Thursday of each month as the meeting date for the Architectural Review Board.

RESOLUTION #299-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the Journal News OR Rockland County Times and/or El Clarin and El Sol as official newspapers for the Village.

RESOLUTION #300-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize use of depositories and trusts located within the Town of Haverstraw.

RESOLUTION #301-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to adopt the following Procurement Policy:

Competitive bidding with an award to the lowest bidder for purchases in excess of \$20,000.00 and contracts for services in excess of \$35,000.00.

RESOLUTION #302-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the Mayor, the Village Treasurer and the Deputy Village Treasurer as Purchasing Agents for the Village.

RESOLUTION #303-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize advanced approval of audit claims, public utility services, insurance premiums, postage, freight and express charges and pre-approved contracted services, all such claims to be presented at the next meeting by officers approving the claims who are singularly and jointly liable for any claim the Village Board of Trustees disallows.

RESOLUTION #304-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the 2012 mileage rate as set by the IRS in the amount of \$.55 per mile.

RESOLUTION #305-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to the affect that every employee obtains advanced approval by the Board to attend any schools or conferences.

RESOLUTION #306-2012

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to establish a Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$300.00 for Youth & Family Services.

RESOLUTION #307-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to establish a Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$75.00 for the Justice Court.

RESOLUTION #308-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to establish a standard work day for elected and appointed officials as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Haverstraw, hereby establishes the following as a standard workday for elected and appointed officials for the purpose of determining days worked reportable to New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System:

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor, Trustee and Village Justice: 5 day work week, 6 hours per day.

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Acting Village Justice, Members of the Zoning Board, Planning Board, and Architectural Review Board: 5 day work week, 6 hours per day.

STANDARD WORK DAYS – Appointed Officials and Other

Accountant, Assessor, Assistant Village Attorney, Camp Director, Court Attendants, Crossing Guards, Custodians, Fire Alarm Mechanic, Parking Enforcement Aides and Village Attorney: 5 day work week, 7 hours per day.

RESOLUTION #309-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood reported that the Tax Cert issue with Tilcon has been settled, however, the final agreement has not yet been signed; they are still working on the language. He then reported that the Village has entered into negotiations with GenOn, the Town and everyone else involved in finalizing that tax certiorari issue. Counselor Hood then reported that GenOn has signed the Mylar for the land they are donating to the Village for the promenade. It now requires the signatures from several county departments and the Rockland County Clerk, at which time the Village will be able to take over the Deed.

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor requested approval of the following people for appointment to the Community Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for applications to be presented for Community Development Funds:

Jose Alfonso, Jose Castro and Yolanda Lopez

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint the above people to the Community Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION #310-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reported that there are two 1997 DPW vehicles that are being readied for public auction. George White, Superintendent of Public Works, will advise the Village Clerk when they are available for auction.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #311-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor requested the Board's approval for early closings on Christmas Eve at 2 P.M. and New Year's Eve at 3:00 P.M.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #312-2012

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno read the following report submitted by Fire Chief Patrick McNamee for the month of November, 2012:

Total Alarms	-	29
General Alarms	-	28
Structure Fires	-	0
Special Calls	-	1
Boat Calls	-	0

Cooking Fires	-	7
Trash/Rubbish	-	0
Brush Fires	-	1
Vehicle Fires	-	0
Electrical Fires	-	3
Mutual Aid Calls	-	0
Extrication Calls	-	0
Boat Calls	-	0
Gas Leaks	-	5
C.O. Alarms	-	1
False Alarms	-	10
Good Intent/Miscellaneous	-	2
Total Manpower Responding	-	660 members

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White Superintendent of Public Works for the period of November 20th to December 3rd, 2012:

- 1) A new salt shed has been installed at the DPW site.
- 2) The DPW workers continue to keep the streets cleaned and taking away debris.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez gave the following report of activities at the Community Center for the two week period ending December 3rd:

Thanksgiving: Served Thanksgiving lunch to over 100 participants and family members, including staff. She thanked everyone who volunteered to cook, serve, and set up for the event.

On Saturday, December 1st, “Supper with Santa” was held at the Community Center, which was sponsored by the “42 Club” and was a very successful event.

Reachout Counseling Services – The staff held counseling sessions for 30 individuals and their family members for group and/or family counseling, 7 of who are participating in the Center’s Team Program.

Homework Program – The Center continues with its Homework Program, with approximately 64 children attending on a daily basis.

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista:

Trustee Batista read the following report submitted by Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios for the period of November 19th through November 30th:

Rental property inspections	-	3
Municipal searches	-	2
Miscellaneous inspections	-	63
Construction inspections	-	1
Complaints	-	6
Violations & tickets	-	23
Permits	-	2
Parking tickets issued	-	285

He mentioned that overnight parking rules went into effect on November 15th and that parking permits can be purchased at the Village Hall.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of October 1st and October 15th for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #313-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
 Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
 Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez mentioned that toys are now being collected for the upcoming Reachout Christmas party at the Community Center.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport inquired if it would be possible for the Village to install “solar panels” to light the streets and even the Village Hall to cut down on electric use.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor noted that with “solar panels” to be used on a peaked roof there needs to be a north/south orientation; he is not sure what the requirements are for a flat roof. The Mayor mentioned, however, that he does not want to get involved with another grant from NYSERDA because they go back on their word and the Village had a lot of trouble with the NYSERDA grant that they awarded last year.

Judith Curcio, Village Clerk: Ms. Curcio mentioned that the Village has still not received any of the funding from that grant.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that as information comes in with regard to "solar power" he does review the information to see if there is anything applicable for the Village. He also stated that there is an initial substantial capital outlay for something like that, some of which is covered by the State, however, there would still be a substantial amount the Village would have to spend for a project like this. The Mayor also reported that the Village is in the process of buying those lights from the utility and then will be able to shop electric rates, which the Board is hoping will save the Village a sizable amount of money.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post inquired if the Board received any information or had any updates from the MTA or FEMA on the Ferry Parking Lot. He also inquired if anything is going on with Mr. Ginsburg with regard to protecting the new building from any kind of storm damage.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that there was a meeting between Mr. Ginsburg, the MTA and New York Waterways with regard to the damage and who they are going to seek funding from. He mentioned that there may be some money available for the Village to re-solidify the embankment, however, he is not sure if it will protect the area from high water surges. With regard to the new building being proposed by Mr. Ginsburg, the engineers are already discussing safeguards that can be put into place to protect the new building. The Mayor stated that everything is taking time with FEMA and the other companies involved, mentioning that this is not a speedy process.

Mayor Kohut: With no further business to be conducted by the Board, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #314-2012

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk
December 11, 2012