

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 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.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport requested an update on the Streetscape Project.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the revisions requested by the State have been completed and sent back to the State for their review. Upon approval of the project from the State, the Village will go out to bid for the components of the project.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport informed the Board that the yellow lines on New Main Street are in need of repainting, mentioning that drivers are driving down the middle of the street because the lines are no longer visible.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will have someone look into the situation.

Gil Muesinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Muesinger expressed his thanks to the Mayor and the Board for taking a positive step toward helping residents with their taxes by attempting to combine the Village Court with the Town Court, which he has read will save the residents a considerable amount of money. More importantly, however, he feels this will make the Police service to the Village more effective.

Andrea Caccura, 34 First Street: Ms. Caccura informed the Board that the "DO NOT ENTER" sign is missing from First Street and some people have been traveling the wrong way down the street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Ms. Caccura that the Village has ordered stencils for painting the roadway with signage that will hopefully take care of the problem.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport inquired if there is something wrong with the Village street sweeper.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that it was broken, but has now been repaired and will be continuing to maintain the Village streets.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport requested the Board to send out letters to the business owners of the Village about keeping the fronts of their stores clean of all debris. He informed the Board that the areas in front of many of the business are littered with all kinds of debris.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that those letters would have been sent out towards the beginning of the summer, however, the Building Inspector has been out on disability for 5 weeks making things difficult for the remaining staff to oversee everything needed in the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor announced the next item on the agenda to be a Public Hearing scheduled for that night at the request of Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 to incorporate their company. The Mayor explained that the 5 fire companies are independent of each other with regard to all social purposes. Several of the companies existed under the umbrella of the Village for some time, with their money having to go through the Village using the Village Tax ID number, which is not the proper way. This incorporation would allow the individual companies to raise money for their own purposes with their own Tax ID number. The Mayor explained that State law requires a Public Hearing be held before incorporation can be approved. The Mayor invited Robert Sullivan and Jerry Felice, 2 members of the company, to come forward to answer any questions from the public.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #168-2014

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

The Mayor opened the floor to the public for questions or comments.

With no input from the public, Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #169-2014

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve Lady Warren's request to incorporate their company.

RESOLUTION #170-2014

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

Both firemen thanked the Board and Counselor Hood for all their help with this incorporation effort.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to rehire Robert Sullivan of Lady Warren Hose Co. to the position of Fire Alarm Maintenance Mechanic, Part Time, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

RESOLUTION #171-2014

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

Mayor Kohut:

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.:** Counselor Hood reported that the Board would like to make some changes to the existing Zoning Law and requested the Board's approval to authorize the Mayor to sign Part I of the EAF short form showing that there will be no negative impact on the environment by changing the Zoning Code. This form will then be referred to both the Village and the Rockland County Planning Boards.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the EAF as stated above.

**RESOLUTION #172-2014**

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

Counselor Hood then requested the Board to schedule a Public Hearing with regard to the zoning changes.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to schedule a Public Hearing on changes to the Zoning Code for Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:05 PM.

**RESOLUTION #173-2014**

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

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

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

**MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut:** The Mayor received a request from Joseph Morina of Lady Warren Hose Co., #5 for reimbursement of fixtures purchased for the renovation of their bathrooms to upgrade the quarters. Receipts were attached for the items purchased totaling \$1,110.62.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to reimburse Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 as stated above.

**RESOLUTION #174-2013**

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

The Mayor and Board were not planning for a Farmers Market in the Village this year due to the loss of the Market Manager, however, he announced that Trustee Dominguez decided to take over that job and through her diligent efforts the Village Farmers Market is once again open. He invited everyone to stop by for their fresh produce, etc. every Sunday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. He informed the public that Maple Avenue would not be blocked as in the past because the market is being held in the parking lot adjacent to the Village Hall.

The Mayor reported that the Village has gone out to bid for the 2014 road improvements, with Tilcon being the only bidder responding. They submitted a bid of \$95,986.25.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept Tilcon's bid and move forward with the improvements.

RESOLUTION #175-2014

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

The Mayor informed the public that the Board is required to approve acceptance of donations and reported the following donations to the Community Center:

- 1) Port-A-Cool fan from Tilcon for use in the gym.
- 2) 12 Desktop Computers from the Literacy Zone.
- 3) 3 Laptop Computers from the Literacy Zone.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the above mentioned donations for use at the Community Center.

RESOLUTION #176-2014

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

The Mayor requested authorization from the Board to donate 12 old surplus Dell Desktop Computers to Jawanio.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #177-2014

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

The Mayor announced that the Regular Board Meeting for September would fall on Labor Day and therefore the meeting is being rescheduled for Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #178-2014

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

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- 1) Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> - "Movies in the Park" at Emeline Park.
- 2) Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> - "Dancing Under the Stars" on Railroad Avenue in West Haverstraw.
- 3) Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> - "River Arts Festival" at Emeline Park.

The Mayor mentioned that the Village is looking for people to help out, financially and as volunteers, with the River Arts Festival, with the next meeting being held on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM at Emeline Park. He invited everyone to join in to help make this a successful event.

The Mayor received a request from Landslide Holding Corp. to reschedule their proposed block party for the tenants of 9 Fairmount Avenue to Sunday, August 31, starting at 3:00 PM. They are also requesting permission to close the alley alongside the building.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

**RESOLUTION #179-2014**

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

**Mayor Kohut:**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FIRE & ORDINANCES** – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno submitted the following application(s) for admittance to the Haverstraw Fire Department:

Dery Berto Fernandez - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5  
Chyanne Secone - Jr. Firefighter, Relief Hose Co. #3

Both applications are complete and duly notarized.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the above candidates into their chosen fire company.

**RESOLUTION #180-2014**

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Trustee Bueno then read the following report for the month of June, 2014, submitted by Fire Chief Al Lynch:

Total Alarms	-	17
General Alarms	-	11
Special Calls	-	5
Mutual Aid Calls	-	1
Structure Fires	-	1
Cooking Fires	-	1
Brush/Rubbish Fires	-	1
Extrication Calls	-	1
Boat Calls	-	1
Water Leaks	-	3
Gasoline Spill	-	1
Good Intent/Misc.	-	4
False Alarms	-	3

Total Manpower Responding - 350 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 ending July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014:

- 1) Repaired 7 catch basins on Westside Avenue, Hillside Avenue and New Main Street.
- 2) Completed installation of speed bumps throughout the Village.
- 3) Checked all flags and banners in the Village for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.
- 4) Cut grass at the Short Clove Road overpass.
- 5) Installed various street signs throughout the Village including 2 handicapped signs.
- 6) Continue to cut grass throughout the Village.
- 7) Assisted the Garden Club with their early summer cleanup of the Community Garden.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista:** Trustee Batista gave the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of June 12<sup>th</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014:

- 1) The Haverstraw Collaborative met on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, with a total of 36 people in attendance, including several from county agencies.
- 2) The Literacy Zone has begun summer classes at the Center with 90 adults attending.
- 3) There are currently 170 children enrolled for the Village Summer Day Camp Program. Registration is still open for anyone wanting their children to attend.
- 4) The Center will be providing after care services for any children needing extended hours of care when camp is over for the day. The cost of this service is \$180.00. For children who participate in the free or reduced lunch program the fee is \$100.00.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

**BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Emily Dominguez:** Trustee Dominguez read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of June 16<sup>th</sup> through July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014:

Municipal searches	-	10
Miscellaneous inspections	-	43
Construction inspections	-	6
Complaints	-	25
Violations & tickets	-	15
Permits/CO's	-	9

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

**MINUTES:** The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board meetings of March 17<sup>th</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup> and the Public Hearing of April 14<sup>th</sup> for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above stated minutes.

RESOLUTION #181-2014

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

At this time, the Mayor invited Andrea Caccura to give her presentation on opening a Bed & Breakfast.

Andrea Caccura, 34 First Street: Ms. Caccura stated it would be a 3 bedroom Bed & Breakfast with each bedroom reflecting a different era of the house and having its own unique flair. The bedrooms would include "The Blauvelt Room" because the Blauvelt's were one of the earlier owners of the house, "The Columbus Room" named after the Knights of Columbus since they were originally headquartered in the house, and "The HEP Room" for the pre-school that recently occupied the building. With all the renovations being made to the home they would like to install a bathroom in one of the bedrooms. She also mentioned that any interior brick walls will be exposed reflecting the brickyard days. They will offer bike tours for cyclists, provide artists materials for painters as well as holding many other events throughout the year. The house has wonderful views of the Hudson River and Hi-Tor Mountains. She also mentioned that there is sufficient parking behind the house for the guest.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired if she would continue to live in the basement apartment to which Ms. Caccuro responded "Yes".

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to refer the applicant, Andrea Caccuro, to the Planning Board for their review of the project.

RESOLUTION #182-2014

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

Mayor Kohut:  
**OLD BUSINESS**  
None.

Mayor Kohut:  
**NEW BUSINESS**  
None.

**Mayor Kohut:**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport asked if anything is happening with the house that burned in the vicinity of Clove Avenue and West Broad Street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that they are giving the owners a little time to work on the property and that the Building Inspector will be addressing the issue in the very near future.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport mentioned there is some damage to the blacktop on the Short Clove Overpass and with the number of cyclists that use the overpass he is afraid someone is going to get hurt. He wanted to know whose responsibility it is to make those repairs.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that either the Village or Tilcon will take care of those repairs.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport mentioned that Bud Wassmer was a big influence in getting the State to install the new overpass and thought it might be a nice gesture for the Village to have a plaque made to reflect that. He also mentioned the improvements being done to the house on the corner of Clove Avenue and New Main Street and suggested that perhaps the Village could present them with a plaque or something to recognize the overall affect the renovations of homes have on the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that Mr. Ginsburg was also a huge influence in getting the State to install the new overpass and both gentlemen were recognized at the opening as having done so. He agreed with Mr. Rappaport that perhaps something further should be done and the Board will take that into consideration. He informed the public that the Brick Museum will be honoring Mr. Wassmer sometime in October with more information to follow on that event.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport questioned which roads the Village is planning on paving.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded the Village will be paving the dead end portion of Clove Avenue, Tor Avenue from Clove to Hudson Avenues and Leonard Street.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post inquired if there are any new restaurants or businesses that have opened recently in the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that the Caribbean Breeze restaurant opened 3 weeks ago in the old Bella Rose location, another restaurant opened at the corner of West Street and Fairmount in the Old Chicken location, which currently has no name visable, El Pastor Restaurant (formerly the Taco Truck) has opened on Broadway in the building next to the Arts Alliance and another restaurant by Union owners, the Union Tavern & Grill Steakhouse is expected to open sometime in September in the Bricktown Brewery location. He also mentioned that next spring a new restaurant will be opening in the old Civile's location with continental cuisine and casual waterfront dining.

Mel Post: Mr. Post congratulated the Mayor on the speech he made with the presentation of awards to the Community Center youth.

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 #183-2014**

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift  
Senior Steno Clerk