

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, October 19th, 2015, beginning at 7:00 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 Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine once again brought up the issue regarding the 5 street lights that are still out on the Short Clove Road overpass.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Levine that the Village had electricians working at that location the previous week. He then mentioned that the same night he received an e-mail from Steve Moetzingler that 17 lights were out in that location. The Mayor then went to the location and saw that there were 5 streetlights out. He stated that the streetlights go on and off at various times and he is not sure if they are on timers or sensors but that would explain the issue of them being on and off at different times.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine stated that he returned home one night at 10:00 PM and the whole area was dark. He also wondered if they were on a timer or if they are sensor lights. Whatever the problem is it needs to be taken care of and, if need be, the Village needs to hire another electrician to look at the problem and have it taken care of again.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village will not have it taken care of because that it is the State's responsibility.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post commented that the Harbors community is in limbo about what is going on with the GDC negotiations. They are concerned and are looking for any information that the Board can give them regarding this issue.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there was an unproductive meeting held the previous month and the Board is now waiting for GDC to get back to them to schedule meetings, which will be for single issue discussions, including assessments, IDA and how Mr. Ginsburg will work through the remainder of the projects, etc. The outcome to date, is that there have been no negative or positive results.

Mel Post: Mr. Post mentioned that the HOA Board has a meeting scheduled for November 15th, at which point under prior the agreements, Mr. Ginsburg was supposed to back off and the HOA Board was supposed to run on its own without GDC. He mentioned that Mr. Ginsburg has also made statements about splitting the development leaving the Harbors community completely in limbo about what is happening, which is very disconcerting to the community and the reason why the HOA is looking to the Board for answers or some insight to the issues at hand.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista informed Mr. Post that in the conversation the Board had with Mr. Ginsburg, he stated that the Harbors community is behind him 100%, so to hear that the HOA is in limbo about the issues is puzzling to him.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Board will work to make progress on getting the issues resolved.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine believes that the Board has to be the proactive group and continue to call Mr. Ginsburg to resolve the issues involved.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if there are village attorneys involved in this whole process or if it is just the Board.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that at the Village attorneys were at the last meeting as was Mr. Ginsburg's attorney. He mentioned there have not been any compartmentalized issues discussed as yet.

With no further input from the public, the Mayor continued with the agenda for that night's meeting.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood requested 2 Public Hearings be scheduled for the November 16th Board Meeting. The first hearing would be to amend the Zoning Code for the Special Purpose Districts to include public, private and parochial schools and child day care centers. The second hearing is to amend Chapter 112, Clearing, Filling & Grading to include consultants and the Planning Board along with the Village Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to schedule 2 Public Hearings, the first for 7:05 PM on November 16th and the second for 7:10 PM also on November 16th, as stated above.

RESOLUTION #185-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

Counselor Hood then reported that he has several Tax Cert's that he is working on with Edye McCarthy, Village Assessor.

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that he has heard from the Archdiocese of New York regarding the Village leasing St. Mary's Church parking lot. The Lease would be for a term of 3 years and includes the following:

- 1) A monthly payment of \$150.00 for use of the lot.

- 2) Provide the Archdiocese with a \$2M umbrella insurance policy.
- 3) The Village would be responsible for clearing the lot and the driveway of snow and debris.
- 4) The Village would not conduct anything that would be contrary to Archdiocesan rules and regulations, including sex education, family planning, or anything relating to human sexuality.
- 5) On the occasion of a wedding or funeral at the church, those people attending that service would have use of the parking lot.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Lease Agreement with the Archdiocese of New York, as stated above, pending approval of their insurance company.

RESOLUTION #186-2015

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

The Mayor reminded the Board that the Hispanic American Lions Club swearing in ceremony will take place at Lynch's Restaurant in Stony Point on October 22nd.

The Mayor reported that the Calvary Baptist Church has reopened for worship following major repairs to the building. There will be a Gospel Concert on Saturday, October 24th and they will be honoring the Town of Haverstraw on Sunday, October 25th at 10:45 AM for allowing their members to utilize the Town Hall during their church repairs, followed by a dedication, also on Sunday, at 3:00 PM.

The Mayor reported that the CSEA Union Contract ran out on May 31st of this year. Two members of the Board have met and negotiated with its representatives to approve a new 4 year Contract at a 2% renewal per year.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Contract as stated above.

RESOLUTION #187-2015

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

The Mayor received a request from Trustee Emily Dominguez to attend a Farmer's Market Conference in Cold Spring, New York from November 10th through November 12th at a cost of \$300.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #188-2015

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

Mel Post: Mr. Post thought the Village might be able to put a clause into the umbrella insurance contract for the Village not to be held liable for any unforeseen circumstances taking place in the St. Mary's Church Parking Lot.

The Mayor does not believe so, but he will look into it.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno had nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White, Superintendent of Public Works, as of October 19th, 2015:

- 1) Prepared alleyways with millings for winter season.
- 2) Fixed 2 catch basins on Highland Avenue.
- 3) Blacktopped potholes throughout the Village.
- 4) Trimmed all the trees back for the winter.
- 5) Winterizing all trucks for the winter season.
- 6) Will continue to work on Short Clove overpass lighting.
- 7) Will be working on the Gurnee Avenue fountain.
- 8) Continue to work on the automatic control at the Harbors.

The Mayor spoke with Bobby Drexler about finishing the line striping on the roadways, the lines for the “STOP” signs, installing humps and patching work in the area of Tilcon and Emeline Park.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista:

Trustee Batista read the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of October 5th through October 16th, 2015:

- 1) On October 16th the Senior Fall Harvest Dance took place, which was hosted by the Haverstraw Collaborative. The purpose was to have the youth of the center bond with the Senior Citizens. It was a great success.
- 2) The Haverstraw Collaborative met on Wednesday, October 7th, from 12:00 to 2:00 PM.
- 3) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group hosted their first meeting at the Center on October 7th at 6:00 PM, attended by 41 people.
- 4) Homework Help Program - A total of 65 children attend on a daily basis.
- 5) Strengthening Families Program - began on October 8th with 9 families attending.
- 6) Monthly Youth Celebration – Will be held on October 29th, at the Center, in conjunction with Caught Being Good.
- 7) Annual Halloween Parade and Costume Contest - To be held at the Haverstraw Center on Friday, October 30th starting at 5:00 PM. Line up for the parade begins at 4:45 PM at the Center. Everyone is invited.

- 8) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group - will meet at the Center on November 4th at 6:00 PM.
- 9) Individual Family Counseling - had a total of 24 participants.
- 10) Project Shift – 10 participants; 2 sessions.
- 11) Sharpshooters – 40 participants; 2 sessions.
- 12) Late Night Friday – 45 participants; 2 sessions.
- 13) Life Skills – (for ages 11 through 14) – 12 participants; 1 session.
- 14) North Rockland High School Extension in collaboration with the YMCA Fitness Program – 360 participants; 8 sessions.

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 October 5th through October 16th, 2015:

Rental registrations	-	20
Municipal searches	-	4
Miscellaneous inspections	-	179
Complaints	-	9
Construction inspections	-	6
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	4
Violations	-	20

Trustee Dominguez then informed everyone that the ball field will be closing for the season in 2 weeks. The field has been well utilized and had a successful season.

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Special Meeting Minutes of July 27th and the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2015 for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #189-2015

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

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mel Post: Mr. Post is hoping that the Board took into consideration the request from both him and Noel Rappaport, made at the previous meeting, to compromise and move the start time of the meetings to 7:30 PM instead of 7:00 PM to accommodate all the people who are interested in attending the Board Meetings.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez responded that the Board had a large agenda for the Workshop that night and unfortunately the meeting start time was not discussed. She assured Mr. Post that it will be discussed at the next Workshop.

Mel Post: Mr. Post feels it is not really that much of an issue to move the start time of the Board Meetings and that perhaps a motion could be made that night.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that the Chairperson cannot make a motion, but if the Board would like to consider it, it would be fine with him.

Terence Watson, Jr.: Trustee Watson did not feel right making a motion that night since it had not been discussed by the Board.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then questioned the Board as to the reasoning for changing the time.

Terence Watson, Jr.: Trustee Watson responded for the convenience of all the Board members.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that it seemed a logical move because the members of the Board were not getting home until sometimes 10:00 PM or later on Board meeting nights. He explained that most of the Board members come straight to the Village Hall from their regular jobs for Workshop Meetings which then go right into the Board Meetings.

Mel Post: Mr. Post feels that the public has requested something that is reasonable and should warrant the Board's consideration.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez requested Mr. Post and the public to give the Board until the next meeting to discuss the time and come to a decision.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista believes that most times there is so much to be discussed that the earlier start time gives the Board more time for discussions, etc., if needed. He also mentioned that the people who normally attend the meetings have been able to make it since the time was changed.

Mel Post: Mr. Post understands where the Board is coming from, but he also stated that the Board originally said it was for the convenience of the people of the Village, which is how it was written in the Minutes. He feels the meetings are not well attended by more people because of the earlier start time.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that Trustee Dominguez suggested the Board discuss it and have a decision for the public at the next meeting, which he believes is a fair option.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine feels that in all fairness the Board should give the 7:30 PM time slot a try for a couple of months and see what works out best for everyone involved, however, he requested that the change be done as soon as possible before the holiday season when people are likely to be busy with other things to make every meeting.

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

RESOLUTION #190-2015

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk