

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, December 21, 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 wanted to extend New Year's greetings to the Board and at this time had no further comments.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor extended holiday greetings and thanks from the Board to everyone.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post also extended best wishes to the Board for a healthy and prosperous new year. He then asked if it would be possible for the Village to contact someone from Harbors if Mr. Ginsburg approaches any of the Boards about wanting to construct a gym or social hall at the Harbors. The Harbors residents are having some problems with Mr. Ginsburg due mostly to the monetary issues he is facing.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor is not sure if Mr. Ginsburg has to come before the Board for either of those items, but if the Mayor or the Board hears that he is coming in with any kind of formal application he will definitely notify Mr. Post.

Bill Holland, former Village resident: Whenever Mr. Holland visits the Village he attends Board meetings and was happy to see more people in attendance than when he used to be a regular at board meetings. He also extended best wishes to the Board for a happy new year.

Betsy Rauschart, 57 Sharp Street: Ms. Rauschart was there representing Open Arms to speak about the property at 28A Clinton Street. Open Arms has several programs, but will be utilizing their Supportive Living Program, which she stated is not an SRO. It is a program for up to 8 people living in the same household utilizing case management services to transition into the community.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez inquired if this is the same type of service that they provided on Broadway.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart responded that it is the same service.

Terence Watson, Jr.: Trustee Watson inquired about the Open Arms project they had anticipated opening on New Main Street.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart responded that it did not get approved because of the zoning restrictions. The Clinton Street property has been approved because of its residential status.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez inquired if it is a 4 bedroom house.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart introduced David Feinman, owner of the property, who pointed out there are 4 large bedrooms.

David Feinman: Mr. Feinman informed the Board that the house had been vacant for 7 or 8 years and was in such bad condition that it had fallen through 2 county auctions. He purchased the property, gutting it and doing a complete rehab on the building for which they received the C.O. in October.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired if this was the property with 2 houses on 1 lot.

David Feinman: Mr. Feinman responded yes and explained that the houses are back to back. He mentioned that this is a beautiful old, classic house with 12 foot ceilings and very large bedrooms, with 2 full bathrooms, a large living room, kitchen and dining room.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart stated that Open Arms is a state agency run by OASAS, therefore, they have to abide by all state regulations including safety codes, square footage, etc.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor asked about the living arrangements for the residents.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart responded it would be 6 to 8 residents in the house, currently being all male, who will each be sharing a bedroom with another resident. Open Arms is in the process of transitioning these men out of Tor View. They will be living as a family unit sharing the kitchen and other common areas of the home, including the yard.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired if they had been to the Building Department regarding this request.

Betsy Rauschart: Ms. Rauschart noted that they have filed an application with the Building Department including a Special Permit because the men are not related.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor and the Board would like to discuss this matter further, therefore, he requested that someone from Open Arms, including herself, be available to answer any questions the Trustees may have and then schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, January 19th.

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 presented the following tax settlements for approval by the Board, mentioning that the owner of all the properties is Fred Schumerlich:

- 1) 27.54-2-70: 21 South Street assessed at \$18,500.00 with \$499.47 to be refunded to the owner.
- 2) 27.46-2-9: 10 Broadway assessed at \$27,000.00 with a total of \$2,301.89 to be refunded to the owner.
- 3) 27.53-2-18: 11 New Main Street assessed at \$18,900.00 with a total of \$687.79 to be refunded to the owner.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to settle the 3 tax certiorari matters as stated above.

RESOLUTION #236-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
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 Fidelis Care to park an RV in the parking lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus to be used to service the community with their health care plans. They will pay the Village \$600.00 per month to park the RV in that lot every Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to allow Fidelis Care to park an RV in the Village parking lot as stated above.

RESOLUTION #237-2015

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

The Mayor received a request from the Quisqueya Club to raise the Dominican Flag on February 27th from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, to celebrate the Dominican Republic Independence Day.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #238-2015

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

The Mayor presented a Bond Amendment authorizing the issuance of \$500,000.00 bonds for the Village of Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York, to pay the cost of the acquisition of real property of approximately 1.9 acres, identified as Section 27.46, Block 1, Lots 80 & 81 and commonly known as the Damiani property, in and for said village and superseding a prior resolution dated January 17th, 2012.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the issuance of a Bond Amendment to purchase the Damiani property as stated above.

RESOLUTION #239-2015

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

Trustee Batista - Yes
Trustee Bueno - Yes

Trustee Watson - Yes
Trustee Dominguez - Yes
Mayor Kohut - Yes

Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio announced the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

The Mayor received a request from the Justice Court for online access to West Law, a law service provided for court purposes, at a cost of \$3,708.00 per year.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Justice Court request as stated above.

RESOLUTION #240-2015

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

The Mayor reported the Village has received a proposal from Payserv, the Village's payroll company, to assist the Village with the Affordable Care Act at a fee of \$3,550.00 per year, plus printing of forms. He explained that starting in 2016 each employee will be provided with a 1095 Form stating the value of each employee's health care plan and the ultimate cost to the Village.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the proposal from Payserv as stated above, subject to their ability to handle self-insured plans.

RESOLUTION #241-2015

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

The Mayor requested approval of the Board to switch the Village's telephone carrier to Optimum, at a savings of approximately \$600.00 per month.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #242-2015

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

The Mayor then presented the Board with a request for early closing times for both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve to 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM respectively.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #243-2015

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

The Mayor then requested the Board to authorize the proposed Henry Hudson Quadricentennial Park (HHQP) plan to be sent to the State for their review and upon receiving approval from the State to then go out to bid for the project.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #244-2015

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

The Mayor then mentioned that during the months of January and February of 2016, two of the Regular Board Meetings fall on federal holidays; the first being in honor of Martin Luther King and the second President's Day. He requested, therefore, approval of the Board to change the meeting scheduled for Monday, January 18th to Tuesday, January 19th at 7:00 PM and the meeting scheduled for Monday, February 15th be moved to Tuesday, February 16th, also starting at 7:00 PM with the Grievance portion of the meeting to begin at 4:00 PM and close at 8:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to change the regularly scheduled Board Meeting dates as stated above.

RESOLUTION #245-2015

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

The Mayor read the following Budget Adjustments requested by the Village Accountant Joseph Modafferi with regard to the \$6.5M Judgment for the Harbors:

<u>ACCT. #</u>	<u>ACCT. NAME</u>	<u>INCREASE</u> <u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>DECREASE</u> <u>REVENUE</u>
A9730.0600	Bond Anticipation Note Principle	\$400,000.00	
A2770.0600	Harbors		\$400,000.00

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

RESOLUTION #246-2015

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

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 had nothing to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista read the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of December 7th thru December 21st, 2015:

- 1) Friday, December 18th the girls and boys Lifeskills Groups held their holiday party with approximately 40 participants. They enjoyed food and music provided by members of the Village staff.
- 2) Today, Monday, December 21st at 4:00 PM the Center held its annual holiday party. He stopped by before coming to the meeting and there was much excitement in the gum. Lots of food and over 200 gifts donated by Toys for Tots will be distributed. Another successful event at the Center.
- 3) Individual Family Counseling had a total of 28 participants.
- 4) Butts Out/Smokers Aftercare has a total of 15 participants.
- 5) Project Shift, A Call to Action had 4 participants.
- 6) Homework Help had a total of 65 participants.
- 7) Late Night Friday had 45 participants.
- 8) North Rockland High School Extension in collaboration with the YMCA Fitness Program had 150 participants.

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 December 7th thru December 18th, 2015:

Rental registrations	-	10
Miscellaneous inspections	-	86
Complaints	-	8
Searches	-	6
Construction inspections	-	7
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	3
Violations	-	6

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meetings of September 21st, October 5th & 19th and November 2nd for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above minutes as written.

RESOLUTION #247-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno suggested having the DPW paint the "Speed Hump" on Maple Avenue for safety reasons, stating it can barely be seen at night.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista also mentioned that Springsteen Avenue is very dark at night because there is no streetlight in that area.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will have it checked out.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine requested an update of the Streetscape Project.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that the Village is in the process of getting the Contract together with the winning bidder of the project and negotiating a contract with the Construction Manager/Administrator, both of which should be completed within the next month or two. There is currently no scheduled start date, but it will be some time in the spring, hopefully in April.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine was interested to know how long it would take to complete the project.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor is hopeful it will be 2 construction seasons or roughly 18 months.

Mel Post: Mr. Post mentioned that at the last Board meeting the Village bonded for additional funding for the Damiani property and the Streetscape Project combined. He wanted to know if the \$500,000.00 Bond is also in respect to that or is the Chair Factory included in these bonds.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the purchase price for the Damiani property is \$450,000.00 plus any additional expenses that go along with the purchase, including attorney fees, bonding fees, etc. This \$500,000.00 needed its own up-to-date resolution. To make things more clear; the Village will not be bonding twice for the same funds.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired if there has been any movement with the GDC issue.

Mayor Kohut: Mayor Kohut reported that the attorney's have been in discussion, but there is nothing positive happening at this time, because GDC has not been very cooperative. He is hoping that there will be something to report at the next meeting.

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

RESOLUTION #248-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk