

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, December 5th, 2011, 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 swearing in of the following recently elected officials; the Honorable Judge Henry Gruffe presided:

Ronald DeCaprio	-	Village Court Justice
Michael Kohut	-	Village Mayor
Terence Watson	-	Village Trustee
Rafael Bueno	-	Village Trustee

The Mayor thanked Judge Gruffe for his services and continued with the Village reorganization as follows:

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

RESOLUTION #231-2011

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

Robert Laureano, Esq.	-	Assistant Village Attorney
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Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Counselor Laureano to the position of Assistant Village Attorney for a term of one year.

RESOLUTION #232-2011

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

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

RESOLUTION #233-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

Judith Curcio	-	Village Clerk/Treasurer
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Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Ms. Cursio to the position of Village Clerk/Treasurer for a term of four years.

RESOLUTION #234-2011

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

Damaris Torres - Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Ms. Torres to the position of Deputy Clerk/Treasurer for a term of four years.

RESOLUTION #235-2011

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion carries: All

Brooker Engineering - Village Engineer

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Brooker Engineering as the official engineering firm for a term of one year.

RESOLUTION #236-2011

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

Stephen Cobb - Village Historian

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

RESOLUTION #237-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

Luis A. Torres - Acting Village Justice

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

RESOLUTION #238-2011

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

Jessica Oms-Mendez - Clerk to Justice Court

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

RESOLUTION #239-2011

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

Toni Jones - Associate Justice Clerk

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Ms. Jones to the position of Associate Justice Clerk for a term of one year.

RESOLUTION #240-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

Chief 4-1 - Director Disaster Preparedness

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Fire Chief 4-1 to the position of Director of Disaster Preparedness for a term of one year.

RESOLUTION #241-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

Assistant Chief 4-2 - Department Director Disaster

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to appoint Assistant Fire Chief 4-2 to the position of Department Director of Disaster Preparedness for a term of one year.

RESOLUTION #242-2011

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

Judith Curcio - Registrar of Vital Statistics

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

RESOLUTION #243-2011

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

Damaris Torres - Deputy Registrar

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

RESOLUTION #244-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor announced the following appointments:

Francisco Batista - Deputy Mayor

Rafael Bueno - Commissioner Fire & Ordinances
Terence Watson - Commissioner of Public Works, Buildings
& Grounds
Emily Dominguez - Commissioner of Youth & Family Services
Francisco Batista - Commissioner of Buildings & Code
Enforcement

DESIGNATED DEPOSITORIES

Mayor Kohut then announced that all banks and trust companies located within the Town of Haverstraw may be used as depositories for all monies received by the Village Clerk/Treasurer and Receiver of Taxes.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to

RESOLUTION #245-2011

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

PROCUREMENT POLICY

Mayor Kohut requested the Board to adopt the Procurement Policy as stated in §64 requiring competitive bidding, with an award to the lowest bidder after public advertisement in the newspapers of the municipality for purchases in excess of \$20,000.00 and contracts for services in excess of \$30,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #246-2011

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

DESIGNATED PURCHASERS

The Mayor designated the following municipal officers to have purchasing authority for the Village: Mayor, Trustees, Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to take effect immediately.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #247-2011

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

ADVANCED APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion authorizing the Board of Trustees to approve payment in advance for audit claims, public utilities services, insurance premiums, postage/freight/express charges and pre-approved contract services. All claims must be presented at the following Board meeting, for audit purposes.

RESOLUTION #248-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to set the mileage amount for the year at \$.51 per mile as per the IRS.

RESOLUTION #249-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS OR CONFERENCES

Schools or conferences may be attended by officers or employees if it will benefit the Village and must be approved by the Board of Trustees prior to their attendance.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #250-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion carries: All

STANDARD WORK DAY FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

The Mayor read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of the Village of Haverstraw establishes that the following is the standard workday for elected and appointed officials for the purposes of determining workdays according to the New York State Retirement System:

Mayor, Trustees & Village Justice: 5 days – 6 hrs per day

Appointed officials, including the following: 5 days – 6 hrs per day
Acting Village Justice, Members of the Planning, Zoning and
Architectural Review Boards

The Village Accountant, Assessor, Assistant Village Attorney, Court Attendant, Crossing Guard, Custodian, Camp Director, Fire Alarm Mechanic, Village Attorney, Parking Enforcement Aides:
5 days – 7 hrs per day

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #251-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to designate the official newspapers for the Village of Haverstraw as The Journal News and the Rockland County Times.

RESOLUTION #252-2011

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

The Mayor stated that Part 2 of the Village reorganization would continue at the next meeting, which will be held on Monday December 19th, 2011. The

Board then took a 5 minutes recess before continuing with the rest of the meeting.

The Village Clerk, Judith Curcio, announced the continuation of the meeting of December 5th at this time.

Mayor Kohut:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joyce Griggs, 19 Hudson Avenue: Ms. Griggs inquired about the hours the Mayor would be working. She believed he was part-time.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the NYS Retirement System requires all municipalities to list all their positions as either 6 or 7 hours. Since it is less than full time, they designate a 6 hour position. He also informed her that he is, in fact, a part-time Mayor.

Art Taub, 3304 Leeward Drive: Mr. Taub inquired if there is anything the Village can do about the trucks leaving debris behind on the new roadway.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Taub that Tilcon had been sending out their sweeper, as well as the Village sweeping the area, explaining that the trucks sometimes have debris that falls from the outside bumpers, etc. and that both the Village and Tilcon are trying to keep on top of it.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine, in addition to what Mr. Taub mentioned, stated that he has some concerns about what the impending winter season might bring considering this is a new road surface.

Terence Watson: Trustee Watson has spoken with George White, DPW Superintendent, who has looked into different options to utilize on new road surfaces. One option was pre-wetting of the roads; a treatment of magnesium and calcium. Another option was to pre-salt the road surface before plowing and then continual plowing. The DPW is aware of the issue and will take all the necessary steps to keep the roadway safe and clear of ice and snow.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor also stated that there are “trigger” roads that the police check in bad weather, mentioning that one is Dowd Street due to the steepness of the grade. When the police feel the weather may create dangerous conditions, they notify the DPW to start clearing the roadways. He believes that this new roadway will now become a “trigger” zone that they will check.

Magda Truchan: Inquired about the promenade along the river.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that the Village has received a grant for a promenade to run from the north end of Emeline Park across the Damiani property, the Chair Factory property to end at Warren Avenue. The Village has an RFP out for proposals on the project. The time period for the RFP’s ended Friday with 10 proposals received. The Village will be reviewing the proposals with a Citizens Committee to narrow the field down in order for the Board to start interviewing firms and select one to design the promenade.

Magda Truchan: Inquired about a tenant on the property and whether it would be leased or owned.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Board is still in the process of discussing a possible tenant to take the site. They have not yet reached a point for active discussion, but it is being worked on. The Village is considering maintaining the property and leasing it.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Upon the recommendation of the Village Assessor, Counselor Hood requested the Board's authorization to sign a "Stipulation & Consent Order" for a Tax Search on 210 Route 9W LLC, for a term of one year (2011). The assessed value on the property was \$295,300.00 and will be reduced to \$215,000.00, for a total reduction of \$79,700.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to allow Counselor Hood to sign the order to a Tax Search on 210 Route 9W.

RESOLUTION #253-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Counselor Hood then asked for confirmation that a Public Hearing has been set for a change to the Fence Law.

Judith Curcio: The Village Clerk informed Counselor Hood that a Public Hearing for that law is scheduled for December 19th, at 8:10 PM.

Counselor Hood also requested that Public Hearings be scheduled for a change to the Swimming Pool Law and the Façade Law for the downtown district.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to hold the Public Hearings stated above on Tuesday, January 17th.

RESOLUTION #254-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio gave the report for the months of August, September and October as follows:

Total disbursements	\$1,624,504.00
Total revenue	\$1,614,020.00

Ms. Curcio had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed everyone that the Board has scheduled interviews for the following Monday beginning at 6:00 PM, for the part-time Parking Enforcer's position.

The Mayor mentioned that the Board has recently amended a law regarding the ability for both the Building Inspector and the DPW to remove vehicles in violation of the Village Laws for parking on the streets during snowstorms, as well as abandoned vehicles. In order to properly effectuate the law, it is necessary for the Village to have a tow truck operator who will be available when needed. A solicitation notice was sent to all tow truck operators within the Village, from which he has received three responses. The low bidder was Danny's Service Center located on Route 9W with a bid of \$80.00 per tow for daytime tow and \$110.00 per tow for nighttime towing. The storage fee per day for towed vehicles would be \$30.00 and all other fees incurred would be \$25.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve Danny's Service Center as the official Village towing service.

RESOLUTION #255-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received, after a year's review of the Village phone bills, a fair proposal from Paetec Corporation, a Verizon subsidiary, which will result in a savings to the Village of approximately \$500.00 per month in telephone bills.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to allow the Mayor to sign a contract with Paetec Corporation.

RESOLUTION #256-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor stated that the insurance premium with Hartford Insurance Agency, through the Village broker Safe Harbor Group, for the volunteer firemen's accidental injury policy is due for renewal. The premium for this policy is \$1,050.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to renew this policy as stated above.

RESOLUTION #257-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Village received a proposal from HDR, Village Consultants for Cell Tower applications, which will cover services in the re-permitting of the Sprint Cell Tower located on the Central Presbyterian Church for their five (5) year renewal permit. It will be at a cost \$4,100.00 which will be paid by the Wireless Carrier.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the proposal from HDR.

RESOLUTION #258-2011

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

Pursuant to a request from Rockland County Personnel the Mayor informed everyone that some time ago the Village was required to change the title of the Court Constables to Court Attendants. Since the Court Constable title is no longer being used by the Village we will be abolishing this title.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to abolish the titles of Court Constable.

RESOLUTION #259-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a complaint about parking in one of the Village lots. The times for parking in any lots in the downtown area is from 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM, which makes things very difficult for any residents living in the downtown business area to get a parking space because these spaces are still being occupied by patrons in restaurants, bars, etc. The hours for overnight parking in Lot #9 had previously been adjusted to accommodate residents. In order to make parking more available to all the residents in the downtown business area, Parking Lot #12, across from Hornick's, will now be rolled back from a 2:00 AM slot to allow parking from 11:00 PM to 6:00 AM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #260-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor requested approval to authorize the surplusing and sale of two (2) village vehicles; DPW truck #9 and the fire department's 2000 Chevrolet Blazer.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #261-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor requested approval of the Board to cover the parking meters for the holiday season from December 12th to January 2nd, thereby providing free parking to anyone coming into the Village to shop, enjoy dining at our restaurants, etc.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to offer free holiday parking as stated above.

RESOLUTION #262-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor informed everyone that Acting Village Justice Luis Torres, who at times does work for a "green" company, offered the Village a chance to have a Charging Station installed in the Village through a NYSERDA grant. He

explained that there is a grant application being submitted by a company that wants to supply charging stations for electric vehicles and asked if the Village would be interested in being one of those sites. As that market increases, the vehicles will need a charging point and having one in the Village would be a commodity that we could offer residents and outsiders alike. There would be no cost to the Village for the charging stations and for a certain period of time there would be no charge to the consumer for electric use. The deadline for this application is December 14th; therefore this must be acted on immediately.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the grant offer to install a Charging Station for electric vehicles in the Village.

RESOLUTION #263-2011

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 acceptance to the Haverstraw Fire Department as follows:

Rosabely Moto	-	General Warren Emergency Co. #3
Matthew Pileggi	-	General Warren Emergency Co. #3
Xavier Chevere	-	Cosgriff Hose Company #4

All applications are complete and in order.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept all three applicants into the fire company of their choice.

RESOLUTION #264-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Trustee Bueno then read the following summary of activities submitted by Fire Chief Patrick McNamee for the month of November, 2011:

Total Alarms	-	24
Structure Fires	-	1
Special Calls	-	2
Boat Calls	-	0
Vehicle Fires	-	2
Mutual Aid Calls	-	0
Extrication Calls	-	0
False Alarms	-	10
Good Intent/Miscellaneous	-	11
Total Manpower Responding	-	712 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, as of November 21st, 2011:

- 1) Completed installing Christmas lights & decorations and assisted in the Christmas Tree Lighting Festival.
- 2) Poured concrete foundation in the Village Clock Square for the World War II Memorial, which will be dedicated at 2:00 PM on Dec. 7th.
- 3) Cleared sewer blockage at 163 Westside Avenue.
- 4) Assisted Tilcon New York with installing four speed tables; 2 on Clinton Street and 2 on Division Street.
- 5) Assisted Tilcon with paving 1,000 feet of Riverside Avenue (Dutchtown).
- 6) Picked up yard waste, construction debris and white goods.
- 7) Continuing to prepare parking meters.
- 8) Continuing to assist King and Son with sewer repairs.
- 9) Continuing work on the sewer line on Fairmount Avenue.
- 10) Installed 50 catch basin covers throughout the Village.
- 11) Staff did a complete garage cleanup.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor invited everyone to join the Village and Rotary Club in the dedication of the World War II Memorial, which was brought to fruition by former Mayor Bud Wassmer. He thanked the DPW for all the work they did with the Christmas decorations and the memorial. He also thanked Beverly Swift for organizing the Tree Lighting and Santa Festival, along with several staff members, for all their help with the festivities for Holidays in the Village on December 3rd. He expressed his thanks to Tilcon for completing paving the street in Dutchtown, using a new asphalt product that they consider to be environmentally friendly and that they will be using in the future.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez read the following report submitted by Peter Fata, Assistant Director of the Haverstraw Center for the period of November 19th thru December 2nd, 2011.

Counseling Services – The staff held 40 counseling sessions for 25 individuals and their family members.

Homework Help: Continue to help approximately 75 young people from 2nd grade through high school who attend daily.

Continuing with the teen program, self expression group, girl scouts, boy scouts, both the boys and girls clubs and caught being good programs.

Harvest Day took place the end of the month. Also, BOCES recently met with staff from the center to discuss pursuing a grant to keep the garden going strong next year.

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 21st through December 5th:

Rental property inspections	-	5
Municipal searches	-	4
Miscellaneous inspections	-	54
Construction inspections	-	7
Complaints	-	4
Violations & tickets	-	19
Permits	-	5
Parking Tickets issued	-	462

He also stated that overnight parking regulations have been in effect since November 15th with tickets being issued by the Parking Enforcement Patrol and the Town Police since that time.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meetings of October 17th and November 7th, 2011 for approval.

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

RESOLUTION #265-2011

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

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno mentioned that A & P Taxi on New Main Street have requested a sign to read "Taxi Stand" be installed in front of their business.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a sign being placed in front of A & P Taxi on New Main Street.

RESOLUTION #266-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez took this opportunity to thank everyone who helped out in any way with this year's Thanksgiving event. This was the 17th year for this event. She also thanked the Mayor and Judge Grant for their time cooking in the kitchen.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

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 #267-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk
December 21st, 2011