

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, April 6th, 2015, at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- Present
	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Absent
	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, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport mentioned that there was a nice article in the Hudson Valley Magazine about happenings in Haverstraw.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor was aware of the article which the Board felt was a very positive portrayal of the Village. The Village is in the process of downloading the article to its website.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then informed the Board that Friday, April 3rd, around 3:00 PM he fell on the sidewalk and that the winter ice had raised the sidewalks in many areas making it hazardous to pedestrians. He stated that several people helped him but he especially wanted to thank Ruben Berrios, who was on his way home at the time, but seeing the commotion stopped to check out the situation. Mr. Rappaport told him what happened and that he called the DPW to request they put some cones out, however, they were already gone for the day. He reported Mr. Berrios went out of his way to get some cones and placed them in the area to prevent another person from falling.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post requested an update on the Ginsburg matter with the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that to date there has been no change on the suit against GDC.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq., Village Attorney: Counselor Hood stated that the matter is still in the negotiation stage.

Mel Post: Mr. Post was interested to know exactly what Mr. Ginsburg is requesting from the Village.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood responded he believes the Village is making progress but there is nothing further to report on the matter at this time.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired about the letter the Mayor was supposed to be receiving from John Cooney of Tilcon.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor met with Mr. Cooney that afternoon, who informed the Mayor that Tilcon is under a "Consent Order" issued by DEC to make corrections to several areas of their operations. They are presently making plans to adhere to the "Consent Order" including somewhat reducing the height of the piles by creating a berm on the south end of their property

which will be landscaped and treed along with the pile on the north end of the Harbors property. Their present goal is to meet the directives of the "Consent Order" which has to be finalized and approved by DEC. As soon as Tilcon gets final approvals from DEC they will begin working on the piles.

Mel Post: Mr. Post believes the violations Tilcon received in October, is what moved Mr. Cooney to promise to send the Village a plan.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that most of the consent items have to do with blasting and issues on the other side of the mountain, with the only thing on this side of the mountain being the height of the piles, which will be addressed in accordance with the order.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then spoke about the earlier start time of 7:00 PM for the Board Meetings and what the Board's thinking was behind the change.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that convenience was really the main objective for the time change, especially throughout the winter months when many people, not just the Board, preferred the earlier time to avoid being out late during severe or dangerous weather conditions. He mentioned that often times when serious lengthy public hearings were held, giving an example of the Harbors development phase, when meetings would linger on into the later hours of the night, people always managed to get to the meetings at 7:00 PM to address any concerns they had. The Board feels that if people have an issue they want addressed by the Board they will make it to a 7:00 PM meeting.

Joel Santana, 100 Halgren Crescent: Mr. Santana informed the Board that when he goes on to the Village Website, other things come up besides Village business, including some Japanese site. He just thought it was something the Village should be aware of.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor thanked Mr. Santana and will have it looked into.

Jason Quinones, 54 N. Congers Avenue, Congers: Mr. Quinones mentioned that he just recently moved to Congers from Haverstraw where he has lived for many years. He has applied for a vendor's license for a food truck in the Village and was informed his application was denied. He wanted to find out why he was denied and how he could fix the situation. He informed the Board he has all the required permits including the Health Department Permit.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded when his application was reviewed there was concern by the Board with regard to his past background.

Jason Quinones: Mr. Quinones understood the Board's concerns; however, he is trying to move forward with his life by doing something respectable and positive for his future. He has also spoken with several Police Officers who have told him he should not be penalized for something that happened in the past. He is just trying to do the right thing at this time in his life and starting this new business is his attempt to move forward.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired if his application is for a Taco Truck and exactly what he would be serving.

Jason Quinones: Mr. Quinones responded that he would be serving a variety of food, including sandwiches, gyros, wings, salads, etc.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired exactly where he would be operating his business, as well as the hours of operation.

Jose Quinones: Mr. Quinones would like to set up in the Village Parking Lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus from the hours of 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM. He also mentioned that the previous truck was paying for 3 parking spots which he would be willing to do. He just wants the opportunity to be able to serve good food to the public in the Village of Haverstraw.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that the Board will review his application again and get back to him as soon as possible with their decision.

Nancy Facciola, 35 Conklin Avenue: Ms. Facciola attended this meeting to speak on behalf of Mr. Quinones. Ms. Facciola stated that Mr. Quinones is the father of 3 and has done his due diligence for past occurrences. He is trying to do the right thing now and his past is in his past. He now coaches CYO basketball, travel basketball and Little League. She does not want his past to reflect on the person he is today and she believes he deserves this opportunity to move forward with his life.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood had nothing to report.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that the Village Financial Planners has informed the Board of the opportunity to consolidate and refinance 2005 and 2007 Serial Bonds. He mentioned this move would save the Village approximately \$24,000.00 per year over the next 10 fiscal years starting in 2016 for a total savings of \$260,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the issuance pursuant to §90.10 or §90.00 of the Local Finance Law of refunding bonds of the Village of Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York and providing for other matters in relation thereto.

RESOLUTION #62-2015

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Trustee Batista	- Yes
	Trustee Bueno	- Yes
	Trustee Watson	- Yes
	Trustee Dominguez	- Absent
	Mayor Kohut	- Yes

Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio reported the motion passes with 4 Yes votes and 1 Trustee absent.

The Mayor received a letter from the Christian Pentecostal Worldwide Missionary Movement requesting permission to preach in the Village, using a megaphone, throughout the day on the last Saturday of every month. He then polled the Board for their thoughts on the matter.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista does not feel preaching all day long with a megaphone throughout the Village would be an appropriate event for the Village.

The Mayor does not believe it would be a suitable arrangement because of all the other religious organizations within the Village.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to deny the above stated request.

RESOLUTION #63-2015

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

The Mayor presented Brooker Engineering's Annual Retainer Agreement for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, effective June 1st, 2015 through May 31st, 2016. Their fee for fixed services as provided in the past, amounts to \$15,600.00 payable monthly in the amount of \$1,300.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement to retain the services of Brooker Engineering as stated above.

RESOLUTION #64-2015

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

The Mayor then reported receiving a 2nd proposal from Brooker Engineering to prepare the Annual Report for MS4 (Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems) at a cost of \$1,200.00. As a part of this, the State requires annual training for village personnel. This training will be provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rockland at a cost of \$1,000.00 for the annual contract year.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the fees for the preparation of the Annual MS4 Report by Brooker Engineering and the fees for training the Village staff as stated above.

RESOLUTION #65-2015

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

The Mayor reported that 5 trees have been removed from New Main Street by the utility companies and that utility poles have been marked for replacement and realignment by Orange & Rockland, starting the following week. He explained that the poles will be taller allowing lines to be higher and out of visual site and will be placed accordingly to accommodate the physical load of equipment on the poles. He also mentioned that there will be some disruption in the downtown area to allow for the pole replacement and double wood will exist for a period of time giving each utility company,

as well as the village, time to do whatever transfers are required. This is the start of the long awaited "Streetscape Project" and the Board is hopeful that this portion of the project will be completed by September of this year. The Mayor reported that informative letters will be sent to all the businesses.

The Mayor then reported that preparations have started for the Village Summer Camp Program and it is time for the Village to go out to bid for camp transportation. With this in mind, the Village Clerk has requested the announcement for bids be published April 30th with bids to be opened on June 1st.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to go out to bid for summer camp transportation as stated above.

RESOLUTION #66-2015

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

The Mayor reported that he has provided the Board with his Tentative Budget for the 2015/2016 fiscal year, which they are in the process of reviewing. As is required by law, he is requesting a Public Hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 13th at 7:00 PM. He is also requesting a Public Hearing be scheduled for April 20th at 7:05 PM to discuss passing a Local Law to override the tax cap in the event that becomes a necessity.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize both Public Hearings as stated above.

RESOLUTION #67-2015

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

The Mayor requested the Board's approval to sign the \$30,000.00 "DMI Grant Award Contract", which is a grant provided through the Rockland County District Attorney's Office to help prevent drug trafficking, etc. in the Village.

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

RESOLUTION #68-2015

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

The Mayor received a request for Jeanmarie Galietta and Nicki Merriman to attend a workshop on "Behavioral Therapy Skills & Strategies" to be held on May 14th at a cost of \$100.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion for 2 employees to attend a workshop as stated above.

RESOLUTION #69-2015

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

The Mayor then requested permission for himself to attend the NYCOM Conference from May 3rd through May 5th in Saratoga Springs.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #70-2015

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
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 for the month of March, 2015, submitted by Fire Chief Al Lynch:

Total Alarms	-	19
General Alarms	-	13
Special Calls	-	2
Mutual Aid Calls	-	4
Structure Fires	-	1
Cooking Fires	-	1
Rubbish (inside) fire	-	1
Gas Leaks	-	4
Carbon Monoxide Alarms-		1
Electrical Problems	-	2
Water Leaks	-	2
Good Intent/Miscellaneous-		2
False Alarms	-	1
Total Manpower Responding		- 407 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 April 6th, 2015:

- 1) Worked on the concession stand at the ball field.
- 2) Put up spring time banners throughout the Village.
- 3) Put up the banners at the Greenway Trail.
- 4) Put milling in the alleyways to fix the potholes.
- 5) Repaired the wheel stoppers in the Village parking lots.
- 6) Fixed potholes throughout the Village.
- 7) Repaired the street sweeper.

- 8) Installed various signs throughout the Village.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: With regard to street signs, the Mayor reported that he spoke to DOT to the request for a "Do Not Block Intersection" sign for Route 202 in the area of the new traffic light. He was informed that they were already looking into the matter. He explained that Route 202 is a state highway and only the State can install signage, etc. and will be sending out their engineers to investigate the problem and will get back to the Board when they resolve the issue, which the Mayor believes will be taken care of shortly.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista gave the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of March 14th through March 27th, 2015:

- 1) The Center will be sponsoring a "High School Bash" from 7:00 PM to 11:30 PM on April 2nd, which is open to all North Rockland High School students. There will be a \$5.00 entrance fee. Food and a D.J. will be provided for the students' enjoyment.
- 2) Following the "High School Bash" on April 2nd, the Center will be hosting its "All Nighter" from 12:00 AM to 6:30 AM. This is an overnight event for 9th through 12th graders attending North Rockland High School. This event will be overseen by Community Center staff, and volunteers from the community and community agencies. Food and snacks will be served.
- 3) Individual/Family Counseling sessions had 21 participants in attendance.
- 4) Smokers After Care had 9 participants.
- 5) Boys Life Skills Group ages 11-14 had 12 participants.
- 6) Life Skills Transition Group for high school students held 2 sessions with 16 people attending.
- 7) Homework Help: 55 participants receive help on a daily basis.
- 8) JUMP held 2 sessions with 50 participants.
- 9) Late Night Friday held 2 sessions with 60 participants.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Emily Dominguez: In the absence of Trustee Dominguez, no report was given.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Meetings of February 2nd, February 17th, and the Board of Assessment Review Minutes of February 17th for approval by the Board.

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

RESOLUTION #71-2015

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

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport feels the “STOP” sign at the corner of New Main Street and Maple Avenue adjacent to the Village Hall needs to be raised. He believes it is lower than the other signs in the Village. He mentioned it was knocked down a couple of years back and when it was replaced he noticed it was lower and mentioned it at a meeting. He feels the larger vehicles cannot see the sign coming down the hill.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired about the “All Nighter” and if it was a charitable event.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista informed Mr. Post that the Community Center holds this event annually as a part of the school district’s spring vacation. He explained that numerous county agencies and the staff of the center host this event providing the students with a supervised fun night out.

Mayor Kohut: With no further business to be conducted by the Board, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting with a moment of silence to honor Edward Zugibe, Sr., who served the Village of West Haverstraw as Mayor for 35 years.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #72-2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk