

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, March 6, 2017, beginning at 7:00 PM.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Santana	- 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, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport inquired about the pending sale of the Graziosi building.

Mayor Kohut: To the best of his knowledge, the Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that he does not believe there has been a closing yet.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then inquired how much Federal money is being used for the Streetscape Project.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded about 65% of the cost is being paid with Federal funding, with the Village picking up the remainder of the cost.

Damian Santiago, 13 State Street: Mr. Santiago inquired if it would be possible for the Village to repave State Street because it has been torn apart and patched up so many times. He feels a full street repaving and curb replacement is necessary in this area. He also mentioned that when the DPW is plowing during the winter they probably cannot distinguish the curbside from the road due to the snowfall and the curbs which were destroyed many years ago were replaced with blacktop, which is ripped up again, and he feels it makes the neighborhood look rundown. He would appreciate anything that the Village can do.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will look at the sidewalks and curbs and do whatever is necessary to make them aesthetically acceptable. With regard to the roadway there is no plan for resurfacing that roadway in the near future, however, if it requires patching to maintain its serviceability that can be taken care of, but not until 2018 when other projects have been completed.

Lisa Campbell, 100 Dowd Street: Ms. Campbell spoke to the Board about a possible development being considered for that area and presented the Board with a letter from the Homeowners Association.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor read the letter aloud, which basically was a request from the Homeowners Association to be notified of any building or new construction applications that come in that might take place in their area. The Mayor had no problem with notifying the Association if anything is received with regard to new construction on Dowd Street.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post requested an update on GDC with regard to the condemnation situation or anything that Mr. Ginsburg has made reference to.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that Mr. Ginsburg still has not come to the Board with anything official on continuing building at Harbors. He believes Mr. Ginsburg has developed some plans to finish the units in the front and possibly moving over to Site B, but it is all contingent upon resolution of the issues with the Village. He again mentioned that nothing officially or unofficially has been presented to the Village. As far as the disagreement between the Village and GDC, that is still in a negotiation stage and all parties are trying to work through it to come up with an agreement.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired why the Village always ends up paying for accidents with cars that are illegally parked, which he really does not understand. When he previously questioned the Board about an accident with an illegally parked vehicle, the answer was the car was never ticketed.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor believes in this recent accident that the illegally parked car was ticketed, because the Police were called to the scene for a moving violation on a public street, whereas the previous accident was in an alleyway in the Village. Even though they were illegally parked, the Village's insurance still does not negate the need for the Village to pay the damages. 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 approval of the Board for the Mayor to sign documents for the purchase of property located at 165 Hudson Avenue, Tax Map #27.62-1-23 for the amount of taxes that are due on this property, amounting to \$12,394.35.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to allow the Mayor the sign documents relative to the sale of said property by the County, as stated above.

### **RESOLUTION #44-2017**

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 requested approval of the Board to take an ad in the 42 Club Journal in the amount of \$125.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

### **RESOLUTION #45-2017**

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

The Mayor informed the public that in addition to providing day camp to the Village youth, the Village is now also providing after camp care for the children of those who work later than the time camp ends for the day. The After Camp Program runs from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM, 5 days a week, for which the Mayor is requesting an increase in fee from \$180.00 to \$200.00 and from \$100.00 to \$125.00 for those involved in the "Free Lunch" program at school.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to increase the fees for the After Camp Program as stated above.

RESOLUTION #46-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut requested approval to schedule the 2017-2018 Budget Hearing for the Board Meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup> for 7:05 PM.

RESOLUTION #47-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana  
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor requested approval of the Board to increase the annual donation of \$250.00 to \$300.00 made to Keep Rockland Beautiful as they begin their clean-ups sessions for the 2017 season.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to make a \$300.00 contribution to Keep Rockland Beautiful.

RESOLUTION #48-2017

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

The Mayor then mentioned that the official Keep Rockland Beautiful cleanup for the Village will take place on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Mayor requested approval of the Board to accept the Financial Audit Report for the year ending May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the Financial Audit Report as stated above.

RESOLUTION #49-2017

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

The Mayor requested approval of the Board to accept the bid from Mateo Collision in the amount of \$2,675.77 to repair damage caused from a Fire Truck accident.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve damage repair to a car as stated above.

RESOLUTION #50-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana  
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a proposal from HUSH Electric to remove and replace lights in the Village Courtroom with new and efficient LED lighting, in the amount of \$1,310.00 which includes labor and materials.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the proposal from HUSH Electric to remove and replace lights in the Courtroom as stated above.

RESOLUTION #51-2017

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

The Mayor read the following adjustments to the 2016-2017 budget year submitted by Joseph Modafferi, Village Accountant:

2016-2017 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS				
Acct. #	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Increase
		Appropriations	Appropriations	Revenue
A1110.11	Justice Court	\$ 4,693.41		
A1410.11	Clerk/Treasurer Office	\$ 3,760.81		
A9961.9	Reach Out	\$ 4,144.32		
A7140.1	Recreation	\$ 4,144.32		
A3620.1	Building Department	\$ 4,166.96		
A3620.1	Bldg. Dpt. Employee Buy Out	\$ 9,120.38		
A5110.1	DPW Laborers, etc.	\$ 41,748.11		
A5010.1	DPW Administration	\$ 8,832.45		
A1990.41	OT Contingency		\$ 80,610.76	

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above budget adjustments.

RESOLUTION #52-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana  
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a memo from the Village Accountant, Joseph Modafferi suggesting that the Village transfer funds, in the amount of \$24,860.00, from Road Repair Reserves to the Streetscape Capitol Project Account, explaining that the reserve goes back many years and is no longer necessary.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to transfer funds in the amount of \$24,860.00 as stated above.

RESOLUTION #53-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Thomas 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 read the following report of fire activity for the month of February, 2017, submitted by Fire Chief Robert Drexler, Jr.:

Total Alarms	-	15
General Alarms	-	11
Special Calls	-	3
Mutual Aid Calls	-	1
Structure Fires	-	0
Brush Fires	-	2
Cooking Fires	-	1
Electrical Fires	-	1
Gas Leaks	-	3
C.O. Alarms	-	1
Extrication Calls	-	1
Pump Outs	-	1
Good Intent/Misc.	-	1
False Alarms	-	2

Total Manpower Responding - 325 members

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

**PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** – **Trustee Terence Watson:** Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by Robert Drexler, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works, as of March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

- 1) Replaced signage on Tor and Westside Avenues.
- 2) Repaired catch basins on Rela, Conklin & Samsondale Avenues and Broadway.
- 3) Repaired potholes on several streets throughout the Village.
- 4) Repaired damaged parking meters at 21 Broadway and both 33 and 39 Main Street.
- 5) Installed new pump at the Riverside station.
- 6) Started work on Greenway Trail.
- 7) Removed “handicapped” sign on Warren Avenue.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES** - **Trustee Joel Santana:** Trustee Santana read the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of February 21<sup>st</sup> to March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

- 1) The Haverstraw Collaborative: continues to meet monthly at the Center.
- 2) Celebrating Families: is currently in its 15<sup>th</sup> week of the program.
- 3) Jump Program/Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- 4) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group: met on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 5) Strengthening Families Program: This program will begin on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and end on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- 6) Unity in the Community: Every year the Haverstraw Collaborative runs this event at the Haverstraw Center during the North Rockland School District's spring vacation recess, which this year is April 10<sup>th</sup> through April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 7) We Care Event: Youth and families who attend activities at the Haverstraw Center received a special invitation to attend the "8<sup>th</sup> Annual We Care Event" at Union Restaurant from Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> through and including Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Trustee Santana had nothing further to report.

**BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT – Deputy Mayor Emily Dominguez:**

The Deputy Mayor read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of February 20<sup>th</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017:

Rental registrations	-	0
Miscellaneous inspections	-	55
Complaints	-	4
Municipal searches	-	0
Construction inspections	-	2
Violations/Tickets	-	11
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	2

Fines collected at Court: \$500.00

Deputy Mayor Dominguez reminded the public that there are just a few weeks left for permit parking. She had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

Mayor Kohut:

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

Mayor Kohut:

**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport inquired when Orange & Rockland (O&R) would be replacing the lights, mentioning that they have replaced his. Trustee Bueno mentioned that they have also replaced his.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will check in with O&R about replacing the remainder of the lights.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then inquired about how much the Village collects in fines for illegal parking. He feels there is so much of this going on and that there are not enough Parking Enforcers to keep up with the number of illegal parking issues in the Village. He feels if the Village raised the fee for the parking fines it would deter people from parking illegally or it could fund a 2<sup>nd</sup> person for enforcement, especially to work on weekends.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village does receive that money, but did not know the specifics regarding the amounts.

Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez assured Mr. Rappaport and the public that our Parking Enforcement Officer is constantly giving out tickets. She also informed Mr. Rappaport that the Village has hired 2 more Parking Enforcement Officers, who will also be working on weekends, reporting that this past weekend they issued 90 tickets.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport is speaking specifically about the times when the Parking Enforcers are gone, at which time people just park wherever they want, even double parking at times. He then mentioned that when he went into the Synagogue that past Saturday there was a big metal object in the hallway. He called the Police right away, but of course a half hour went by before they responded. They took the object and put it in their car.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Point Drive: Mr. Levine is under the impression that when the Streetscape is completed the main streets are going to be much narrower.

Terrance Watson: Trustee Watson informed Mr. Levine that it will be the same original size enabling cars to park on both sides of the street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor pointed out that what dictated the order of how the work was started for the project was the fact that the utility poles were still in the way and the secondary poles had not yet been removed so work had to be started on the side without the poles. This happens to be the side where the sidewalks are being widened. The sidewalks will be balanced out on both sides at the completion of the project, leaving the street the same size as it started.

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested an update of the Village Website.

Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez explained that the Village is waiting for some changes to be made to the site and the Trustees still have to get pictures taken for the site.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor is hopeful to have the Website up and running by April.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired if current Minutes could at least be put on the site.

Judy Curcio: Ms. Curcio responded that the Minutes through 2016 are up to date, to which Mr. Post disagreed. Ms. Curcio will check on this.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the current Website is going to disappear as soon as the new Website is up and running.

Lisa Campbell: Ms. Campbell inquired about the water main project going on.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Ms. Campbell that the water mains have to be replaced from New Main Street to Terrace on the Hudson.

Larry Montroy, Westside Avenue: Mr. Montroy informed the Board that there seems to be a water leak in the area a little distance from the cemetery on Westside Avenue, which is actually coming from the middle of the road, not the side. Counselor Hood has also noticed this. Mr. Montroy also mentioned that people are parking on both sides of the road on Westside Avenue creating a dangerous situation for drivers.

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

RESOLUTION #54-2017

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Cler