

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, April 3rd, 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 when the Streetscape Project was going to start up again.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that the Streetscape Project had started again that day on Broadway. He explained that because the contractors were not sure when the utility poles would be out of the way they would work on one side of New Main Street and then onto the east side of Broadway because there were no utility poles on that side. They are going to continue on with that plan, however, after they get going in that area, they may put on a second crew to start up again on Main Street and New Main Street. They are hoping, if things go according to plan, to finish up during this construction season.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport has noticed a lot of filming going on in the North Rockland area and the Village. He inquired if the Village gets any monetary return for filming done in the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded “yes”. The Village receives a permit fee and other assorted fees for the disruption of normal life in the Village.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then inquired if the Police receive any kind of stipend for their service.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Police are hired through the Town and receive an overtime rate and other fees.

Judith Curcio, Village Clerk/Treasurer: Ms. Curcio informed Mr. Rappaport that on that day and the following day a crew would be filming an NBC Pilot Series called “RISE” in the Village and on Wednesday and Friday a crew will be filming a full length feature movie called “I Think We’re Alone Now”.

With no further input from the public, the Mayor continued with the agenda for that nights meeting, announcing a Public Hearing regarding amending Village Code §169-18, Violations & Penalties.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing as stated above.

RESOLUTION #66-2017

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

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor invited Village Attorney, Jay Hood, Jr. to present the circumstances of this Public Hearing.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood advised the public that he was requested by Mayor Kohut and the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, to amend the Violations & Penalties Code by increasing the fines for violation of property maintenance from \$250.00 to \$500.00 per violation.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor pointed out that property maintenance includes everything from garbage on the property to shabby roofs and everything in between.

Terrence Watson: Trustee Watson felt a part of that law should include the times the Village has to go out and maintain a village property not being taken care of by the owner.

Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez informed Trustee Watson that any property the Village has to maintain, the cost to maintain a property is added to the tax bill of the property owner.

Judith Curcio, Clerk/Treasurer: Ms. Curcio informed the Board that property maintenance is already a part of the law and has been done this way for several years.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the increase in fees for Village Code §169-18 to a minimum fine of \$500.00.

RESOLUTION #67-2017

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

With no input from the public, Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing regarding Village Code §169-18.

RESOLUTION #68-2017

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the 2nd Public Hearing with regard to the 2017/2018 Budget.

RESOLUTION #68-2017

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

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor presented his 2017-2018 Budget calling for a 1.89% increase, which would amount to \$176.62 per thousand dollars of assessed value, which is below the cap designated by the Governor. He

reported that everything in the budget stayed much the same as the previous budget, except for the following items.

- 1) A 2% increase across the board for CSEA employees based upon contractual obligations.
- 2) A 2% increase for non-union employees based upon equity and some minor adjustments in a few salaries above the 2%
- 3) The Village has received a reduction of almost 13% in its general insurance coverage.
- 4) The Village has reduced some of the taxes on Village owned properties, which have now been put on the exempt tax rolls.
- 5) Some contractual expenses have gone up in the street maintenance department based upon actual expenses to date with the Village requesting wider variety of work from the DPW staff.
- 6) The Special Events budget line has been slightly increased to hold more events throughout the year.
- 7) There is an increase in the cost of dock repair because the new company installing the docks is significantly more expensive.
- 8) The budget for sanitary sewers has been significantly under budget for years and is now being increased by approximately \$10,000.00 due to the expense of the sewers and any unforeseen problems that may arise.
- 9) A reduction of approximately \$45,000.00 in the NYS Retirement Benefits Program.
- 10) Health insurance has gone up by 6%, amounting to a \$78,000.00 increase.
- 11) The Firefighters benefits (LOSAP Program) have gone up 9%.
- 12) The Village debt service has increased slightly in some areas.
- 13) The Village Revenue line has seen some increases, particularly in the area of the pilot payments and the tax increases.
- 14) Minor decreases in revenues for gross receipt taxes.
- 15) Increases in rental of real property and building permit fees.

Estimated expenses have gone from approximately \$9.9M last year to approximately \$10.239M this year for a total increase of 1.89%.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public for questions or comments.

With no input from the floor, Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing with regard to the 2017-2018 Budget.

RESOLUTION #69-2017

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Mayor's Budget as proposed above with an increase of 1.89%.

RESOLUTION #70-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

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

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio gave the following Treasurers Report for the months of December 2016, January and February, 2017:

Total Disbursements	-	\$1,795,604.00
Total Revenue	-	\$ 635,207.00

Ms. Curcio had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor received a request from Mehmood Akbar for a Peddler's Permit to operate a "Gyro Stand" in the parking lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a Peddler's Permit as stated above.

RESOLUTION #71-2017

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

The Mayor received 2 proposals for the Village to purchase 2 Ford Explorers, 1 for the Building Department and 1 for the Department of Public Works at a cost of \$29,679.00 per vehicle. Also received was a request from the Haverstraw Center to replace their old 1999 Van with a new 15 passenger van costing \$29,233.00, which will be subsidized by a \$17,500.00 grant received from the office of Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the purchase of 3 vehicles as stated above.

RESOLUTION No resolution number given with failure to pass.

Motion by: Joel I. A. Santana
Seconded by: No 2nd on motion
Motion: Not approved

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to sponsor the Town of Haverstraw 5K Run with a donation of \$250.00.

RESOLUTION #72-2017

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

The Mayor received a proposal from TAM Enterprises, Inc. to repair the spare pump at the Tilcon Pump Station at a cost of \$3,690.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the proposal to repair a pump station as stated above.

RESOLUTION #73-2017

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

The Mayor received a request from the Rockland County Storm Water Consortium to participate in the Storm Water Consortium Grant with a 25% match for the Village in the amount of \$3,125.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve participation in the Rockland County Storm Water Grant to enhance mapping of the municipal separate storm sewer systems in the County as stated above.

RESOLUTION #74-2017

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

The Mayor received a resolution from NYSDOT to become "Title VI" compliant through the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as the Village does receive funding from NYSDOT. It is necessary, therefore, for the Village to have "Title VI" reporting relationships and to keep a Title VI manual available. Pursuant to that, the following have been named to the "Title VI" Specialists list:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Title VI Coordinator | - | Judith Curcio, Village Clerk/Treasurer |
| Planning Specialist | - | Ruben Berrios, Building Inspector |
| Construction Specialist | - | Ruben Berrios |
| Environmental Services | - | Brooker Engineering |
| Maintenance | - | Robert Drexler, Superintendent DPW |
| Design | - | Brooker Engineering |
| Right-of-Way | - | Ruben Berrios |
| Traffic Safety | - | Robert Drexler |
| ADA Coordinator | - | Ruben Berrios |

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve appointments to the "Title VI" Specialist List as stated above.

RESOLUTION #75-2017

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

At this point in the meeting, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Executive Session.

RESOLUTION #76-2017

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

At this time, the Mayor once again brought up the purchase of 2 Ford Explorers, 1 for the Building Department and 1 for the Department of Public Works at a cost of \$29,679.00 per vehicle and a 15 passenger van for the Haverstraw Center costing \$29,233.00, to be subsidized with a \$17,500.00 grant received from the office of Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski.

Mayor Kohut entertained a 2nd motion to approve the purchase of 3 vehicles as stated above.

RESOLUTION #77-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
 Seconded by: Thomas Watson, Jr.
 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
A3089	State Aid			\$17,500.00
A9720.0600	Statutory Bond Principal		\$ 72,500.00	
A1010.0400	Board of Trustees Contractual	\$ 200.00		
A9050.0800	Unemployment	\$ 500.00		
A5142.0400	Snow Removal	\$ 15,000.00		
A8510.0400	Beautification	\$ 3,000.00		
A1930.0400	Judgments & Claims	\$ 5,000.00		
A1990.0401	Contingent		\$ 17,756.00	
A9720.0600	Statutory Bond Principal		\$ 5,500.00	
A9720.0700	Statutory Bond Interest		\$ 944.00	
		\$ 23,700.00	\$ 96,700.00	\$17,500.00

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

RESOLUTION #78-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
 Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
 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 March, 2017, submitted by

Fire Chief Robert Drexler, Jr.:

Total Alarms	-	18
General Alarms	-	11
Special Calls	-	4
Mutual Aid Calls	-	3
Structure Fires	-	1
Cooking Fires	-	3
Brush Fires	-	4
Hazardous Condition	-	1
Good Intent/Misc.	-	3
Extrication Calls	-	1
Snow Standby	-	1
False Alarms	-	1

Total Manpower Responding - 331 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 April 3rd, 2017:

- 1) Repaired guard rail on Westside and Samsondale Avenues.
- 2) Repaired catch basins at Emeline Park, Tor Avenue and Hudson Avenue.
- 3) Repaired catch basin caps.
- 4) Repaired potholes on several streets in the Village.
- 5) Finished removing snow.
- 6) Took all plows off of trucks and cleaned all trucks.

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 April 3rd thru April 17th, 2017:

- 1) The Haverstraw Collaborative continues to meet monthly at the Center to plan and promote activities for the betterment of the children and the community.
- 2) Jump Program/Big Brothers, Big Sisters are seeing 15-20 young people ages 9-16 weekly in “mentoring groups” with adult mentors from the Community. This program continues to be highly successful.
- 3) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group will meet on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 6:00 PM at the Haverstraw Elementary School. A Financial Literacy Workshop will be presented for the parents.
- 4) Strengthening Families Program is now the its 5th week with a total of 13 families attending. This program is offered in both English and Spanish.
- 5) Monthly Youth Celebration in conjunction with Caught Being Good will be held on April 26th at the Center with certificates being awarded to those children who exemplify good behavior. At the same time, birthdays are also celebrated with food and cake being served.

- 6) Unity in the Community: The Haverstraw Collaborative offers this event annually during the North Rockland School District's Spring Recess, which this year ran from April 10th thru April 14th with approximately 100 youth attending. They had the opportunity to share in recreational activities, educational workshops and other programs presented daily from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
- 7) Glass Eel Project: Once again, youth from the Center have been given the opportunity to take part in this conservation project. Staff member Tim Sanders led the young people in assisting with collecting valuable data on the "glass eel" as well as helping to clean and reset nets, which they will be doing twice a week for the next 2 months.

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 March 20th through March 31st, 2017:

Rental registrations	-	0
Municipal searches	-	5
Miscellaneous inspections	-	45
Complaints	-	6
Construction inspections	-	4
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	4
Violations/Tickets	-	8
Permits & C.O.'s	-	2

Fines collected at court: \$3,250.00

Deputy Mayor Dominguez had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Meetings of January 17th and February 6th for approval by the Board.

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

RESOLUTION #79-2017

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

Mayor Kohut:
OLD BUSINESS
 None.

Mayor Kohut:
NEW BUSINESS
 None.

Mayor Kohut:
2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport inquired about the filming fees paid to the Village in comparison to what other municipalities receive.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport complimented the DPW on the great job they did this winter with snow removal and clean-up. He then complained about all the blue bags containing flyers that are being tossed all over the Village and most not being picked up.

Francisco Batista: Mr. Batista suggested having the bags put into people's mailboxes instead of just being tossed everywhere. He then inquired about what departments will be receiving the new vehicles.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Batista that 1 is for the DPW, 1 is for the Building Department and the Van is for the Haverstraw Center.

Francisco Batista: Mr. Batista remarked about how he thinks the purchases should be handled.

Judge DeCaprio: The Judge was pleased about the passage of the "No Knock Law", stating that there were numerous solar panel vendors last summer that became very annoying.

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

RESOLUTION #80-2017

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk