

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, May 7th, 2018, beginning at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Attending Conference
	Trustee Santana	- Present
	Mayor Kohut	- Present

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the meeting with the first Public Participation inviting people to ask questions or make comments.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport informed the Board that the blacktop in the area of the railroad tracks is disintegrating. He then mentioned that he thought the Board would be sending out notices to all the businesses in the downtown with regard to keeping the sidewalks in front of their establishments cleaned, which is not being done, giving specific examples. He inquired about the status of the restaurant on Front Street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that the new restaurant, "El Coqui" also has restaurants in Westchester and Queens, and they are hoping to be open by the beginning of June.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then requested an update on the Chair Factory property.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Board is talking to some interested parties, but will not be rushing into anything at this point.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine inquired if the Village is responsible for lighting and maintenance in the area of the promenade, because there are currently 6 or 8 lights that light up on occasions during the day instead of at night.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village pays for lighting repairs, however, day to day maintenance is taken care of by the Landscaping Contractor.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine then inquired about who is responsible for cleaning up the shoreline along the walking path by the river because there is so much debris, floating and on the shore that it takes away from the beauty of the river.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that it is the Village's responsibility; however, the DPW cannot get down into those rocks without getting hurt. He will look into it to see what is there.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: While Mr. Post was fishing on the river this week he noticed a huge crate floating in the river, possibly from the bridge construction, which he feels is a danger to the ferry or any recreational vehicles on the river. He called 911 and was transferred to the Town Police, who informed him it would be a county responsibility. When someone finally showed up, they looked around, never spoke to him, and did nothing.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that the Sheriff's Department does at times patrol the river, but he is not sure if it is even their responsibility, it may be the Coast Guard's responsibility, he was not sure.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then requested an update on the Ginsburg situation, hoping that any resolution will take the \$6.5M tax burden away from the Village residents.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that they are moving along and are closer to resolving the issue than they have ever been.

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 was absent from the meeting but had requested the Mayor to obtain approval of the Board to sign the Lease Agreement with the new restaurant at 16 Front Street.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a Lease Agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION #87-2018

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Joel Santana
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 the Girl Scouts seeking permission to use the Village Parking Lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus as a pick-up and drop-off point for their scouts attending summer camp.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve bus pick-up and drop-off for the Girl Scouts as stated above.

RESOLUTION #88-2018

Motion by: Joel Santana
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from Cosgriff Hose Co. #4 to hold a carnival at the parking lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus from June 18th thru June 24th.

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

RESOLUTION #89-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then mentioned that Cosgriff Hose Co. #4 is holding a "Wing Night" fundraiser for 2 members of their Ladies Auxiliary who have been fighting serious illnesses. They are requesting a donation to help cover the expenses involved.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion authorizing the Village to donate \$200.00 towards the above stated fundraiser.

RESOLUTION #90-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the following Board Meeting summer schedule:

Monday	-	June 18th
Monday	-	July 16th
Monday	-	August 20th

RESOLUTION #91-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a proposal from Goosetown Communications for monitoring systems and service for 4 village sanitary sewer pump stations throughout the Village, which will allow the DPW to be aware of pump stations going off-line, backed up or without power. The cost for this service is \$6,676.00.

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

RESOLUTION #92-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with "HDR Telecommunications" for consulting services on an upgrade to the Sprint cell tower at the Central Presbyterian Church.

RESOLUTION #93-2018

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

Mayor Kohut then entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with the "Department of State" regarding the Comprehensive Plan, subject to any agency revisions during the contracting process.

RESOLUTION #94-2018

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

Mayor Kohut then entertained a motion to authorize the Village Engineers to go out to bid for the 2018 Sidewalk Program, with a return date of June 14th.

RESOLUTION #95-2018

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor read the following adjustments to the 2017-2018 budget year submitted by Joseph Modafferi, Village Accountant:

2017-2018 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS				
Acct. #	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Increase
		Appropriations	Appropriations	Revenue
A1990.0400	Contingent		\$ 7,955.00	
A1010.0400	Board Contractual	\$ 100.00		
A1110.0400	Justice Court Contractual	\$ 1,000.00		
A1440.0420	Engineering Contractual	\$ 70.00		
A1440.0400	Engineering Contractual		\$ 70.00	
A1620.0410	Buildings Fuel		\$ 16,245.00	
A1620.0440	Buildings Lights	\$ 15,000.00		
A6360.0400	Special Events	\$ 100.00		
A7110.0420	Ball Park	\$ 8,000.00		

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

RESOLUTION #96-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: Mayor Kohut spoke about a possible project in the Village that has been presented by Walison Corp of Mt. Vernon, New York. The project would involve development of affordable housing by Walison Corp in cooperation with the Village utilizing space above Village parking lots. The Board expressed an interest in continuing to pursue interest in the project.

The Mayor then announced upcoming events as follows:

- 1) Saturday, May 19th – Haverstraw Fire Department Parade at 3:00 PM & Inspections in the morning
- 2) Sunday, May 20th – Gran Fondo Bicycle Race
- 3) Sunday, June 3rd – Food Crawl from 1:00 to 5:00 PM downtown
- 4) Sunday, June 3rd & Wednesday, June 13th – Farmers Market start-up
- 5) Friday, June 15th – Dancing Under the Stars on Broadway & Lincoln
- 6) Saturday, June 16th - 3rd Annual Juneteenth Celebration on Clinton Street

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 April, 2018, submitted by Fire Chief Thomas Price:

Total Alarms	-	23
General Alarms	-	15
Special Calls	-	3
Mutual Aid Calls	-	5
Structure Fires	-	0
Cooking Fires	-	2
Electrical Fires	-	3
Brush Fires	-	1
Trash/Rubbish Fires	-	2
Gas Leaks	-	3
Good Intent/Misc.	-	3
False Alarms	-	5

Total Manpower Responding - 473 members

Trustee Bueno requested approval of the Board to donate \$300.00 towards the Chiefs Trophy to be awarded at the Haverstraw Fire Department Inspection Parade on June 19th.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #97-2018

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

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 May 7th, 2018:

- 1) Repaired 2 damaged swings in Jefferson Street Park.
- 2) Black topped in front of Village Hall, following the April drainage issue.
- 3) Applied playground mulch to all Village playgrounds.
- 4) Worked on new landscaping in front of Village Hall.
- 5) Added mulch to all village properties.
- 6) Removed plows/sanders from all village trucks for the summer season.
- 7) Installed parking posts on corners in downtown area.
- 8) Removed guardrail on Hudson Avenue.

- 9) Installed 3 "STOP HERE ON RED" signs on New Main Street, Broadway and Main Street.
- 10) Installed 5 "SCHOOL PARKING ONLY" signs on Dowd Street.

Trustee Watson then requested the Board's approval to hire T. J. Connery, part-time, at a salary of \$12.00 per hour, for the months of June, July & August to assist with Village projects while full-time laborers are on vacation, etc. Mr. Connery has previously been employed with the DPW and is familiar with the required duties. His employment would begin on June 4th, 2018 and end on August 24th, 2018.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #98-2018

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

Trustee Watson then requested approval of the Board to have trees removed along the Tor Street alleyway by Northern Tree Service at a cost of \$1,300.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the tree removal as stated above.

RESOLUTION #99-2018

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Joel Santana: Trustee Santana had nothing to report at this time. He did, however, request approval of the Board to permanently increase the annual salary of the Receptionist/Typist, Clerk/Typist and Telephone Operator/Typist positions in the CSEA Union contract to match that of a Clerk/Typist pending Civil Service (CSEA) approval.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #100-2018

Motion by: Joel Santana
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Trustee Santana had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT – Deputy Mayor Emily Dominguez: In the absence of the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of April 16th thru May 4th, 2018:

Miscellaneous inspections	-	136
Complaints	-	12

Municipal searches	-	12
Construction inspections	-	10
Violations/Tickets	-	18
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	11

Fines collected at court - \$1,750.00

There was nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport informed the Board that he has heard there is a lot of drug dealing taking place at Emeline Park. With all the children that go there to play, he feels this is something the Board needs to look into.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that he visits Emeline Park often and has never seen any drug activity.

Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio also stated that she visits the park and has never witnessed any illegal activity.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport mentioned that he feels it is great that the Town and the Villages are sharing services with the DPW.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that this sharing services and equipment is working out great for all 3 municipalities and will have monetary savings for all 3 as well.

Mel Post: With the 4th of July celebrations approaching, Mr. Post mentioned that the Promenade at the Harbors is always packed with people to watch the fireworks. He feels it would be beneficial to everyone involved to have extra police presence there that night.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will talk to the Police Chief, but also suggested Mr. Post himself present his request to the Town Board at a meeting, which would help support the Village's request.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine spoke about an article in the Journal News which stated that the Village of Haverstraw has the highest tax payments in the state of New York. He asked the Board what can be done to promote the Village more intensely, because in all the papers he reads he never sees any notifications of activities being held in the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village has a very large internet presence now so all of the activities and happenings in the Village all detailed on the Website and Facebook.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired about 16 Front Street and any interest that there may have been from other restauranteurs.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that here was plenty of interest in the location from other restauranteurs however the prior tenants still held the lease so they made the efforts and made the best deal for them. The Board did have to approve their pick of tenant.

Mel Post: Mr. Post raised the issue that there are many Latino restaurants in the Village and his thought is that a seafood place would be a better choice rather than more competition with the existing restaurants.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor commented that this is primarily Puerto Rican cuisine rather than Cuban or Dominican and that their understanding is it will draw a different clientele than our other restaurants.

Trustee Santana: Joel Santana informed the public that this restaurant has a very high social media and radio presence. He feels this will bring a lot of people from NYC and possibly New Jersey as well.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine said he recently sent an email to New York Waterways. The email was prompted because he has watched the traffic patterns getting into the city, three lanes going down to 2 etc. and he feels that they should be promoting the Ferry more. His email suggested that they do so. They never responded to him.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that he sees quite a bit of advertising for the Ferry, inserts in the Journal News regularly and he has seen ads in several other places.

Mel Post: Mr. Post expanded on the advertising issue stating that they should promote the Ferry by pointing out to the public that they can avoid the traffic by using the Ferry.

Mel Post: Mr. Post asked if the Board was aware of when Mr. Ginsburg would be continuing to build on the waterfront.

Mayor Kohut: Mayor Kohut informed Mr. Post that it would be soon but that Mr. Ginsburg still had a few things to straighten out with the Village.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport inquired if the Village had "things" they could hold over his head in order to get him to pay what is owed.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that everything is part of the negotiations.

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

RESOLUTION #101-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel Santana
Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk