

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, June 6th, 2011 beginning at 8:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| ROLL CALL | Trustee Batista | - Present |
| | Trustee Bueno | - Absent |
| | 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 reported to the Board that Anderson Gardens has cleaned up their property and Blue Beverage Company cut their grass.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Point Drive: Where Mr. Levine lives, he overlooks the DPW area. He mentioned that the way the night lights are focused, particularly on one building he believes to be the sewer plant, they are so bright that anyone in that section of Harbors cannot leave their shades up. Around the building and in the building, the lights are on all night long. He asked if motion detector lighting could be installed on the buildings, which would save money and avoid any inconvenience to people in the surrounding area.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that they are required to keep some lighting in that area in case anyone legitimately has to get in, however, he will check into perhaps installing some motion detector lighting or a cover to protect it from shining in that direction.

Terence Watson: Trustee Watson mentioned that there is a camera system on the building, which requires lighting to detect any problems.

Peter Marsh: He mentioned that a bus has been parking on Clove Avenue for about a half hour several times a day. He wanted to know if they are allowed park on a residential street, especially since there is a municipal parking lot in the area. He also mentioned that the bus was parked facing the wrong direction one day. He inquired if he should call someone if he does see a bus parked in the wrong direction, to which the Mayor advised him to call the police.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor then explained that they do lay-over at times during the day and if it was a Monday, there was probably no parking near the Graziosi Building for the bus because the seniors utilize the on-street parking to attend their meetings on Monday. However, they should not be parked on Clove and the Mayor will speak to someone at the county to rectify the situation.

Simon Urena, 20 Rela Avenue: Mr. Urena is concerned about people racing their cars and speeding in the area of Rela, Rhoda, Victor Avenues and Picarello Drive. He stated it is always the same group, all driving Honda Civics, who are constantly drinking, doing drugs and driving recklessly through his neighborhood. He is concerned about the children

riding their bikes and playing outside. When he walks his dogs he sees the drug paraphernalia, beer bottles, etc., and it is constant; not just a one time thing.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed him that the police are aware of the situation and it is being looked into.

Simon Urena: Mr. Urena has not really seen any police presence in the area unless someone actually calls for them. He has gotten a couple of license plate numbers, but the cars are always moving too fast to get them all. He then mentioned the trash, beer cans, etc. thrown all over the lawn at the corner house on Victor Avenue.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that the owner of that house has been fined and has appeared in court and if he does not take care of it by this weekend the DPW will clean it up, billing the owner for the clean-up.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood informed him that it is helpful for the police if people get license plate numbers for them to track, mentioning that they can then put the owners or renters on notice that certain situations are being looked into. He requested the plate numbers that Mr. Urena already had and asked if any of them live his neighborhood.

Magda Truchan, 1213 Round Pointe Drive: Ms. Truchan again brought up the dangerous situation stemming from the lack of sidewalks from the Harbors to West Street or Maple Avenue. She feels that not being able to walk into the Village is not just a Harbors residents issue, but there are also commuters and visitors coming in that she has spoken to who are afraid to make that walk from Dr. Girling Drive to the downtown. It would be great to be able to create more of a walking village, especially for visitors coming in. She inquired if there could be an area by the DPW to make a cross-through so visitors and residents could avoid walking on the street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor replied that the logistics make it almost impossible to install a sidewalk in that area without jutting into the street. As a part of the streetscape, they are trying to rework the whole interchange of Maple Avenue and West Street, but for now he does not know how to fit a sidewalk in there.

Gil Musinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Musinger agreed with Ms. Truchan and is convinced if this is not taken care of before the Route 9W interchange is completed that there will be many pedestrian accidents. He mentioned a strip of land adjacent to the roadway itself, where he believes the owner would be willing to allow the village to install a sidewalk.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post mentioned that Supervisor Phillips wrote a letter to several legislators with regard to the dangerous situation at the top of Gurnee Avenue, where DOT was supposed to be installing a traffic light. He was under the impression that there was some movement on that and inquired if the Mayor had any further information about this and if not, asked that the board look into it.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that he has not heard anything regarding a change of plans for Gurnee Avenue.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood mentioned that he is continuing with the Tax Cert work and will be meeting with Edey McCarthy, Village Assessor, to settle six outstanding cases. He has filed the map merging the lots of the municipal ball field, therefore, the village can now move forward with the recreation easements that the DEC wanted on that property, which will be completed within the next two weeks. He met recently with people regarding the LDC and is hoping to get the Board copies of the Articles of Incorporation and get that moving. He has set a court date for the end of the month for the Village action against Joe Klein, who owes the village money from the façade program from several years ago. He then spoke about Cablevision's offer of \$6,000.00 of the \$18,000.00 owed in settlement. The problem that has arisen is that they want the \$6,000.00 to take them to the end of the term of the Franchise agreement and, no matter how much they shortchange the Village over the next few years, the Village would not be able to come back for further settlements. He does not feel this is acceptable. He wanted to get the Board's opinion on the matter.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired what steps the auditors recommended.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood has not yet received a call back from the auditors, so he will contact them again.

Terence Watson: Trustee Watson asked how many years are left in the contract.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood stated that there are four or five years left and if Cablevision continues to shortchange the Village even more, this settlement would be releasing them for the rest of the term, which he feels is unacceptable.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned there are numerous requests for speed bumps on Broad Street, West Street, Hallmark Homes and an additional one on Hudson Avenue. They are investigating the best way to handle speed bumps because they have to be removed for the winter months for plowing. George White, Superintendent of Public Works, has suggested that as the Village newly paves its streets that speed humps be installed, which are wider and plowable and can also remain in place year round to effectively slow down traffic.

The mayor received a request from the owner of 4 Union Street, Maria Pena, for a handicapped parking spot because of her various medical conditions. There is no driveway attached to their house.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a handicapped parking spot in front of 4 Union Street.

RESOLUTION #136-2011

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from St. Peter's Church for a Corpus Christie procession beginning at 12:00 PM on Sunday, June 26th. The procession will travel from Broadway to Main Street to Allison Avenue and Broad Street to Broadway and back to the church.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the procession as it has done in previous years.

RESOLUTION #137-2011

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor announced that the Village previously went out to bid for transportation for summer camp. One bid was received from Haverstraw Transit to provide busing for numerous trips at a cost of \$11,765.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the bid of Haverstraw Transit.

RESOLUTION #138-2011

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from the Girl Scouts to utilize the parking lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus as a bus stop for their day camp program from July to the end of August.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to grant permission for the bus pick up for the scouts as has been done in the past.

RESOLUTION #139-2011

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a proposed contract from Cornell Cooperative Extension for their MS4 Stormwater Education Program, which is an annual contract for education and outreach to the community for proper Stormwater Management. The fee for this program is \$1,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the contract.

RESOLUTION #140-2011

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor stated that the Village has to accept the annual MS4 Report; the Annual Stormwater Management Report prepared by Brooker Engineering and submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the report and put it on the village website as soon as possible.

RESOLUTION #141-2011

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor informed the Board that both New York State and the Rockland County Municipal Stormwater Consortium require a Public Hearing be held for comments on the continuation of the Stormwater Management Program. He scheduled the Public Hearing for June 20th at 8:05 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #142-2011

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor informed the Board that an Executive Session is needed to discuss labor negotiations. He then announced the following activities taking place in the Village on Sunday, June 12th:

- 1) The Annual Haverstraw Fire Department Firefighters Memorial Service beginning with mass at St. Peter's Church at 8:00 AM, followed by a march at 9:15 AM from the Municipal Building on Fairmount Avenue to Broadway, New Main Street, Route 9W to the Firemen's Memorial at the cemetery for a ceremony.
- 2) Opening Day of the Haverstraw Farmer's Market from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. He congratulated Mia Vaculik and Michelle Natale, coordinators of the market, for their success last year and for bringing an even bigger market to the Village this year. The Mayor invited everyone to visit the market.
- 3) The first "Dancing Under the Stars" for the 2011 season will be held Friday evening June 17th in front of the Village Hall at 7:30 PM. He invited everyone to join in on the festivities and dance to the music of Brisa Tropical.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – **Trustee Rafael Bueno:** Trustee Bueno was absent from the meeting, therefore no report was given.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White, Superintendent of Public Works:

- 1) DPW crew is continuing to cut grass on all Village properties, parks and lots.
- 2) Repaired collapsed drainage pipe on Rhoda Avenue.
- 3) Installed monumental rock at Emeline Park and McKenzie Avenue Ball Field.
- 4) Moved the sand and installed pea stones at the McKenzie Ball Field.
- 5) Installed “5 Minute Parking” signs at the intersection of Main and Wayne Streets.
- 6) Placed some screening around the Community Garden.
- 7) Picked up yard waste, construction debris and white goods.
- 8) Helped with planting of flower pots.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez was absent from the meeting. Mayor Kohut reminded everyone that summer camp applications are still being accepted at the Village Hall.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista:

Trustee Batista read the following report submitted by Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios for the period of May 16th through June 3rd:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----|
| Rental property inspections | - | 83 |
| Municipal searches | - | 2 |
| Miscellaneous inspections | - | 97 |
| Construction inspections | - | 97 |
| Complaints | - | 15 |
| Violations & tickets | - | 38 |
| Permits | - | 5 |

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport wanted to know what is being done to refurbish the entrance to the Village at the intersection of Route 9W and New Main Street.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the old wooden welcome sign was removed over the winter and there will be a new large wood timber sign put up after the holes are dug and the posts are installed. The Board is working with the Landlord Association to sell signage space to advertise what is happening in the Village. Then it will be landscaped.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport then inquired what would be happening to the other sign across from the Village sign at that intersection.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Rappaport that sign would be left alone because that property belongs to CSX.

Angelo Cintron, 57 New Main Street: Mr. Cintron spoke about having the fence situation straightened out.

Terrence Watson: Trustee Watson informed Mr. Cintron that it is on the DPW's list.

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #143-2011

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk
June 8th, 2011