

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, September 19th, 2011, beginning at 8:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- 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.

Gil Musinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Musinger thanked the Mayor and the Board for taking care of the potholes in the area of Short Clove Road and Route 9W. He then brought up the ditch that the DPW filled in on the side of Dr. Girling Drive, mentioning that some of that fill was washed away during the hurricane. He requested that the DPW do some kind of permanent repair so it does not have to be filled in over and over again. He then inquired if the Streetscape plans are complete and if he or anyone else would be able to look at the plans.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the detailed plan has not yet been finalized. The public would be able to look at the conceptual plan, but he will have to work out how to make it available to public.

Gil Musinger: Mr. Musinger recently drove through New City and often drives through the other communities in Rockland County. He would like to see the same types of changes and upgrades done in our village as has been done in these other areas of the County. He requested that the Board finalize the Streetscape documents as soon as possible and then bring it before the public for their input. He feels, even if the members of the public are not professionals, they can still come up with some good ideas for the Village.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: With regard to the Cell Tower Law, Mr. Post suggested that in the future, the Board first look into properties owned by the Village, which would bring income into the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that utilizing Village properties for future cell tower sites is a part of the law.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then brought up an article in the September 9th edition of the Journal News quoting the Mayor as saying that the Streetscape will begin in the spring or summer of next year. He inquired if, in fact, the plans are 100% complete and, if completed, have they been submitted to the proper agencies. He also feels the plans should be brought before a public referendum before being finalized.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there have already been Public Hearings with regard to the Streetscape Plans over the past few years and that there will not be any further Public Hearings. He explained again that it is a requirement of the DOT that the Village forward 60 to 70% of the completed documents together with the DAD (Design and Development)

Report. DOT then reviews those documents and either approves them or sends them back to the designer to make any necessary revisions if they have any questions, concerns or changes they want made to the documents. The planner must then respond to the DOT requirements and once they receive the revised documents and approve the plan, the Village can then go out to bid. The Village is currently awaiting approval from the DOT. He mentioned that 60% of the plan has been completed by the designer and the Village is expecting to go out to bid on this project over the winter, with construction to begin next spring or summer.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired where the money would be coming from since the grant is no longer available.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post and the public that the funds appropriated for the original Streetscape have been reallocated for this project. He mentioned that several months back he reported at a board meeting that the grant money for the 2011 Streetscape Project has been reallocated to the Village for 2012.

Mel Post: Addressing the same article from the Journal News, Mr. Post inquired about the Chair Factory property and the preliminary plan that the Board has for this property. He also inquired if the Village is considering selling this property.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the designated developer and a restaurateur are working together to come up with plans for the property. Their proposal would have to meet the Village criteria and approvals would then follow. Selling or leasing the property is still open to negotiations. He stated that the Village might have to sell the housing portion, but communal portions can be leased.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if it would be brought before a Public Referendum if the Village decides to sell or lease the property.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that any planning entails public input and would have to go through the Planning Board process, etc. He requested Counselor Hood to respond further to that question.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq., Village Attorney: Counselor Hood responded that there is no mandatory Public Referendum required and that the final decisions would be up to the Board.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport spoke about the utility companies ripping up all the roads in the Village and was happy to see that they had finally completed their repairs on Broadway, thanking the Mayor and the Board for whatever they had to do to get the repairs completed.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood reported that the Telecommunication Facility Law is now in final draft form for the Board to

review. He asked for a Public Hearing to be scheduled for Monday, October 17th at 8:05 PM.

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

RESOLUTION #191-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Counselor Hood next spoke about the proposed Chicken Law, which would allow a property owner to keep a certain number of “hens” on a residential property. He thanked Ed Moletta who helped with the research on this subject and for putting together a proposal, which Counselor Hood has reviewed and made some changes to. He gave copies to the Board for their review and possible action at the next board meeting, unless the Board feels the need to hold a Public Hearing regarding this matter.

Counselor Hood then spoke about the issues with the paint colors being used on some of the buildings in the downtown area. He has reviewed the laws in other municipalities and presented the Board with some examples of those laws, as well as a proposal for their review. The Board can then decide whether to create a new local law or make an amendment to an existing local law. He also suggested getting some input from the ARB (Architectural Review Board).

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor suggested that the Board hold a Workshop together with the members of the ARB and the Building Inspector to get their input on the proposal.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to hold a workshop on Tuesday, October 11th at 7:30 PM.

RESOLUTION #192-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson

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:

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that the Board has met with Stephanie Brady of the New York State Small Business Development Center (NYSSBDC), who works in conjunction with RCC to assist up and coming entrepreneurs. They are planning to host a Latino Entrepreneur Workshop on Wednesday October 19th beginning at Village Hall and then continuing at the RCC campus in the Village. This workshop will be followed by a luncheon at Union Restaurant, where NYSSBDC will be presenting the following five awards to outstanding business men and women:

Latino Business of the Year
Latino Corporate Citizen of the Year
Latino and Latina Entrepreneurs of the Year
New Latino Business of the Year

The NYSSBDC will make the decision on which candidates will receive the awards. The Mayor suggested that anyone knowing a Latino business person that they would like to nominate for these awards complete and submit an application at the Village Hall. The deadline for all submissions is October 3rd.

The Mayor informed the public that the Board has met with the Village Planner with regard to the proposed RFP for the promenade continuation, which will begin at the south end of Emeline Park and proceed north to Warren Avenue. He mentioned that the RFP is nearly complete at which time the Board will do a final review and make any necessary adjustments. He expects to have the RFP ready to go out for design and construction of the Henry Hudson Quadracentennial Park and Waterfront Promenade by next week.

The Mayor met with POW'R (Putnam, Orange, Westchester & Rockland) Against Tobacco, an organization that seeks to prevent tobacco use by minors. He is happy to report that the majority of the businesses in the Village have been very cooperative and are supporting this program. He read the following statement of support:

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF ENDING TOBACCO MARKETING
IN STORES

WHEREAS, tobacco companies have developed carefully calculated media campaigns to recruit new youth smokers; and

WHEREAS, internal industry documents show that tobacco companies have perceived children as a key market and developed products and marketing campaigns aimed directly at them; and

WHEREAS, point-of-sale cigarette marketing exposes all store visitors to pro-smoking messages and imagery; and

WHEREAS, cigarette marketing is more prevalent in stores where adolescents shop frequently; and

WHEREAS, the density and proximity of tobacco retailers may influence tobacco use initiation among youth; and

WHEREAS, only a comprehensive and enforced ban on marketing reduces use, especially among youth; and

WHEREAS, tobacco products are responsible for the preventable death of approximately 1,200 Americans per day; and

WHEREAS, habitual tobacco use begins in childhood; and

WHEREAS, retail stores are an integral and valuable part of our community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Haverstraw hereby partners with POW'R Against Tobacco in requesting that our communities protect our children by limiting/reducing their exposure to tobacco marketing.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion for the Village to adopt the above statement supporting POW'R Against Tobacco.

RESOLUTION #193-2011

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Entire Board
Motion carries: All

The Mayor then reminded everyone that the Annual Street Fair will take place on Sunday, September 25th with many vendors selling food and miscellaneous items. He invited everyone to attend in order to make this another successful street fair for our village. He also mentioned the Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour, which would be coming through the Village on Sunday morning.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno submitted the following applications for acceptance to the Haverstraw Fire Department as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hilario Rodriguez | - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 |
| Francisco Perez | - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 |
| Ramer Miranda | - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 |
| Danya Peralta | - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5 |
| Frank Inoa | - Relief Hose Co. #3 |
| Anthony Babcock | - Cosgriff Hose Co. #4 |
| Andrew Rafferty | - Cosgriff Hose Co. #4 |
| Nicholas Roman | - Rescue Hook & Ladder Co. #1 |

All applications are complete and are in order.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept all eight applicants into their chosen fire companies.

RESOLUTION #194-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
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 George White, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works for the week ending September 19th, 2011:

- 1) Cleared severe sewer blockages on Broad and West Broad Streets.
- 2) Started catching up on grass cutting throughout the Village.
- 3) Started preparing all trucks and equipment for the winter season.
- 4) Repaired sink hole on Hudson Avenue drainage.
- 5) Filled in trenches, due to storm damage, on Hillside Avenue, State Street, Riverside Avenue and other various locations throughout the Village.
- 6) DPW worked alongside paving contractors in the restoration of the Orange & Rockland trenches, working on Broadway, Partition Street, Orchard Street and Broad Street.
- 7) Picked up yard debris, construction debris and white goods.
- 8) They will be pouring the sidewalk on Prospect Street some time this week.

Trustee Watson mentioned that during the last storm many sewer pipes were broken and in need of repair on Fairmount Avenue between Hudson and Clove Avenues. He received three bids from the following:

King & Son Construction	-	\$34,700.00
Victor Zugibe	-	\$45,000.00
Tan Enterprise	-	\$45,000.00

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to hire King & Son Construction for the sewer work.

RESOLUTION #195-2011

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez reported that the Community Center is back in full session with all activities and programs for the start of the 2011/2012 school season. She mentioned that the Homework Program currently has approximately 60 children participating and is one of the centers biggest programs.

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista:

Trustee Batista read the following report submitted by Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios for the period of September 5th through September 16th:

Rental property inspections	-	81
Municipal searches	-	2

Miscellaneous inspections	-	102
Construction inspections	-	14
Complaints	-	13
Violations & tickets	-	7
Permits	-	11
 Parking Tickets	 -	 406

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meetings of August 15th and September 6th, as well as the Special Meeting Minutes of July 26th and July 27th for approval.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #196-2011

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

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport mentioned that the fence in the area of Anderson Gardens has been down for several weeks and there are poles sticking up and people are walking over it. He is afraid someone will get hurt and would like the Board to address the matter. He did mention it to the Building Department a couple of times. He then stated that at this time when so many communities are losing their volunteers to have so many new people applying for membership into the Village Fire Department is something to be proud of. He also mentioned that the Ambulance Corp. has also been attracting new members and feels this is a commendable thing for the Village and the North Rockland area.

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #197-2011

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk
September 26, 2011
Tape #44