

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, May 20th, 2013, 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.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine thanked the DPW for the cleanup work they did at Harbors. He then inquired what would be done to cleanup and repair the walkway in front of Harbors.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that he recently met with SEMO (the state version of FEMA) representatives who visited different sites in the Village affected by Hurricane Sandy. Along with the Mayor and other Village representatives they walked the promenade area to see the devastation left by the hurricane. The Mayor mentioned that the Village has already prepared estimates and is in the process of preparing bid documents for the repairs.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine reiterated what Mr. Post spoke about at the previous meeting with regard to people watching the 4th of July fireworks from that area, which he feels will be a danger for everyone.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there are equally bad, if not worse conditions, at Emeline Park also in need of repair and did not think the area by Harbors was as dangerous a situation.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine inquired if it would be possible to put up something on a temporary basis to keep people from walking into that area of Harbors.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that it could possibly be roped off, but he will inspect the area again to see what can be done.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine believes something has to be done about the exit of the new overpass, because most people are not stopping at the stop sign and he feels it is getting worse. He thought perhaps a camera in that area could help the situation, then tickets could be issued, which would also benefit the Village.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that he goes up and down the overpass fairly frequently and feels it is a "Hit and Miss" situation, but from what he has seen most people will at least slow down for the "STOP" sign. He does not disagree with Mr. Levine, however, he feels it is an enforcement issue and unless the police start issuing tickets it is not going to stop. He will speak to Police Chief Miller about the situation.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista inquired if they have voiced this problem at a Town Hall meeting.

Terence Watson, Jr.: Trustee Watson also feels that if there is police presence at the end of the overpass it would make people stop.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine then mentioned that people also are not stopping at the new "STOP" signs installed at Harbors.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post mentioned that he spoke with Howard Phillips about the same type of situation at Harbors by the turnaround. Supervisor Phillips responded by calling Police Chief Miller and requesting he put cars in the area when they are available. He then requested an update on the Tilcon situation.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there has been no change with Tilcon and the Village is still waiting to hear back from the Village Consultants.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if the Mayor has found out what they intend to do with the property in question.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the property Tilcon lost to the overpass was their asphalt reclamation site, a site where old asphalt is ground up for reuse. Approximately 3 years ago that was their intention for the property. Since that time they have had to recreate a site for that purpose, which the Mayor thinks is on the other side of the mountain. He does not believe Tilcon currently has any preconceived notions about the property usage.

Mel Post: Mr. Post still feels the Village should not make any decision regarding this property until Tilcon informs the Village of their intended use. He also mentioned that although the Village gave the public a 10 day period to respond to the issue, that it was a difficult task because the public did not know what they were responding to. He then suggested that the Village consider renting the property to Tilcon.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded it is not the intention of the Village to give Tilcon the property for nothing, stating if the Village is going to relinquish that property to Tilcon it has to be for just compensation. He also explained it does not have to be cash, but could be other considerations such as blacktopping, etc. He also explained that any Village owned property can not be given away freely.

Mel Post: Mr. Post still believes it would be a nice gesture on the Village's part to make the public aware of Tilcon's intent for the property before a decision is made. He feels Tilcon does have a purpose in mind for the property. He then inquired when the Town, the Village and the School issue a budget that is under the 2% cap because of exemptions, if those exemptions are the same for each entity, filtering into the mathematical prospect.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that he could not speak for the School District because they may have different categories. He did explain, however, that the 2% tax cap is an increase in the levy and that there are exemptions for pensions, lowered assessments etc.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired if the Town gets their figures in the same manner.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor believes that the Towns and Villages are identical, however, he informed Mr. Post that he could speak to the Village Accountant, Joe Modafferi, or with Michael Gamboli at the Town, who could better answer his questions.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if the public can again get involved once Tilcon comes forward with the plans for the property.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there are no additional Public Hearings because the Public Hearing has already been held and officially closed on the matter.

Terence Watson: Trustee Watson inquired if, at the time the property was taken from Tilcon by the State for the overpass, if an agreement was made to give Tilcon any property in its place.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded "NO".

Mel Post: Mr. Post once again requested that the Board turn down the request by Tilcon for a variance and let them make their appeal to the Zoning Board. He also requested that the Village keep on top of the graffiti around the Village, mentioning graffiti on the wall on West Street. He feels it is important that the Village put forward it's best foot when welcoming visitors, which will hopefully be on the increase with the addition of new restaurants, etc.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that any graffiti found in the Village is taken care of as quickly as possible.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport spoke about the police not doing their jobs while in the Village, explaining that people are double parked and the police just go around them, the same with people parked in "No Parking" areas or "Handicapped" zones, or simply to help people in distress, they just keep going. He gave several other examples of police negligence.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that he, as Mayor, made a call to the police about a break-in at Civile's and it took the police over a half hour to respond. He stated that he is as frustrated as the public where the police are concerned.

Gil Haber, 1423 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Haber wanted to know the tax rate for both the current and previous years.

Judith Curcio, Village Treasurer/Clerk: Ms. Curcio informed Mr. Haber the current tax rate is \$150.06 per thousand. The previous year's tax rate was \$142.32 per thousand.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood reported that he has gone to court regarding Mirant, but has some items that he needs to look into before he gives the Board an update on that issue. He then mentioned the Damiani property will be coming up for review shortly.

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

Gil Haber: While on the subject, Mr. Haber inquired what influence the Mirant situation has had on Village taxes.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the School taxes have more than doubled and the Town and Village taxes have increased just a little less than that, all resulting from the Mirant situation.

Gil Haber: Mr. Haber then inquired what the taxes might be without the Mirant issue.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded approximately 60% to 70% less.

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio reported that the Village Tax bills will be going out on time.

Ms. Curcio had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor received a request from Bricktown Gospel Fellowship to utilize the Village Clock Park for an evangelistic type of service in June. The Board feels it is not the proper venue for that type of gathering and he will send them a letter with suggestions for other venues.

The Mayor has received a request from St. Peter's Church to hold a Corpus Christi procession, as has been done in past years, processing from St. Peter's Church to Emeline Park and back, on Sunday, June 2nd from 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the procession as stated above, with a copy of the letter to be forwarded to Police Chief Miller.

RESOLUTION #109-2013

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reported that he has received the Auditor's Report, from Korn, Rosenbaum for the fiscal year of 2011-2012.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the Auditor's Report as stated above.

RESOLUTION #110-2013

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Village Engineers to prepare the necessary bid work for repairs to Emeline Park, Harbors Promenade and the Greenway Trail and for those bids to go out and come back without the necessity of another meeting.

RESOLUTION #111-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received the following budget adjustments from the Village Accountant, Joe Modafferri for approval by the Board:

Account #	Account Name	Increase Expenses	Decrease Expenses	Increase Revenue
A.9720.0600	Bond Principal SAD	159,692.00		
A.9720.0700	Bond Interest SAD	127,503.00		
A.0000.1001	Real Property Tax			287,195.00
A.9720.0700			2,036.46	
A.9720.0600		2,036.46		
	Adjust Principal & Interest			
A.9040.0810	Workers Comp Fire	10,000.00		
A.1620.0450	Building Water	2,000.00		
A.1650.0400	Central Communications Village Hall	1,300.00		
A.3410.02	Fire Equipment	25,000.00		
A.3410.0400	Fire Supplies		25,000.00	
A.6989.042	Farmers Market	1,000.00		
A.7140.0450	Community Center Communications	400.00		
A.7310.0410	Summer Camp Expenses	500.00		
A.1990.0400	Contingent		15,200.00	

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

RESOLUTION #112-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Francisco Batista

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno had nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson: Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White, Superintendent of Public Works, as of May 20th, 2013:

- 1) Installed speed bumps throughout the Village.
- 2) Cut and trimmed the grass by the overpass.
- 3) Installing signs throughout the Village.

- 4) Cleaned and trimmed around the Municipal Building on Fairmount Avenue.
- 5) Blacktopped throughout the Village.
- 6) Repaired three catch basins at the corner of Samsondale Avenue and Picariello Drive, corner of Broadway and Archer Street, and on Hillside Avenue.
- 7) Removed debris that was wedged under the canoe docks in the lagoon at Harbors.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez had nothing to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista had nothing to report.

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Kohut: Before closing, the Mayor announced there will be a Moonlight Bowling Fundraiser for Damaris Torres, a village employee who suffered a severe stroke several months back and is now going through physical therapy and a slow recovery process. The fundraiser is scheduled for June 28th at High Tor Lanes, Route 9W, beginning at 8:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased at the Village Hall.

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 #113-2013

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk