

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, July 15th, 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.

Gil Musinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Musinger thanked the Board for having the graffiti removed from a building on Main Street. He then mentioned that while walking down Main Street towards the Post Office the final 1/3 of the street is a disgrace and unpleasant to anyone walking in the area. He feels that the Board needs to do whatever it can to see to it that every property owner keep the area in front of their property clean of debris and properly swept. He has seen items in that area that have not been moved for weeks, if not longer. He recommended that the Board have the Building Department put some kind of pressure on the individuals to keep their property clear of any kind of debris. He also suggested that the DPW have someone walk the streets with a blower to keep the sidewalks clean of debris, especially at this time of year when there are many people coming into the Village to dine at our restaurants, many of whom have to park and walk to where they are going. He feels the Village should always be presented properly to all residents and visitors and that the Board needs to do everything possible to make this happen. He then mentioned an article he read in the Journal News on June 2nd referring to Code Violations in Port Chester and Mt. Kisco and what they are doing to resolve the issue of more than one family living under the same roof without having multi-family certification. Mr. Musinger realizes it is hard to enforce all Village regulations, but these townships appear to have been successful in this area. He gave the article to Trustee Batista to review and discuss with the Board.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor thanked Mr. Musinger for his input and informed him that the Building Department is striving to clean up these violations in the Village, and have done so whenever they are made aware of any code violations. He also explained that the Building Department does not have a constitutional right to enter any home without some cause, at which time they try to locate and resolve the issues.

Gil Musinger: Mr. Musinger would still like for the Board to review how Westchester County was able to resolve their problems with the possibility of helping to resolve some of the Village's issues.

With no further comments from the public, the Mayor moved forward with the meeting agenda inviting Marion Breland, Director of Haverstraw Center to come forward with a presentation on "ONLY 2 WILL DO".

Marion Breland: Ms. Breland introduced the representative from CANDLE, Joanne Goodman, who introduced a community initiative by participants of the Community Center, which has been successful in other communities and our Youth & Family Services Center has decided to take on. She mentioned that staff member Tim Sanders helped to carry out this project along with many of the children from the Center.

Joanne Goodman: Ms. Goodman explained that “ONLY 2 WILL DO” is a slogan that is used in communities making it mandatory for 2 forms of I.D. to be used for anyone under 30 years of age looking to buy alcohol in any establishment. She explained that there are many teenage boys and girls that have 1 fake I.D. showing that they are over 21 and that having to show 2 forms of I.D. will make it harder for these teens to purchase alcohol. CANDLE receives their funding from the District Attorney’s office and are currently working with the Town of Haverstraw and the Town of Stony Point Police Departments and are now looking forward to working with the Village of Haverstraw youth to get the message out to as many establishments as possible to voluntarily place a placard in their establishment stating “ONLY 2 WILL DO” and actually ask for 2 forms of I.D. from anyone that looks under age. She also mentioned that an art contest was held at the Center to create stickers for use by any establishment volunteering to adhere to this program.

Tim Sanders: Mr. Sanders explained that the art work was done by the kids at the Community Center, some of which were present at the meeting, with the help of the Art Department of North Rockland High School. He explained that a group of 17 young people from the Center actually went with him to approximately 80 establishments that sell alcoholic beverages, mentioning that when the owners saw the kids themselves expressing the need not to sell alcohol to minors, approximately 55 establishments immediately volunteered to be a part of this initiative. Mr. Sanders stated that he was very proud of each and every child that inspired the owners to volunteer for this project. He also thanked the translators and police officers who accompanied him and the children to the different establishments.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor inquired what they could use as a second form of I.D.

Tim Sanders: Mr. Sanders stated that they could use any form of I.D. that has their picture, name and date of birth or age listed. The second one does not necessarily have to be a photo I.D. as long as one of the two has a photo. At this point, the children were all asked to identify themselves and say a little something about what they did and why. They also displayed some of the art projects related to this program. Most stated that they gained a lot of knowledge from this program and wanted to keep their fellow students and future generations from making what could be the biggest mistake of their lives. The following is a list of young people that participated in the program:

Michael Keating	Keanu Olivares
Fabian Tineo	Krystle Torres
Roger Harris	Elijah Tillman

Mel Post: Mr. Post loved the slogan and suggested they take this initiative one step further and meet with some politicians to possibly see if this could be made into a state law. He applauded the kids for a job well done.

Joanne Goodman: Ms. Goodman also felt that would be a wonderful idea, however, they are not yet finished trying to spread this initiative throughout Rockland County. Their first agenda is to have this initiative instituted in Rockland and once it is established in the County then they can introduce the initiative to the state.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor suggested that they contact Akiko Matsuda at the Journal News, to do an article about this project. The program received applause from the public.

The Mayor then announced that Marion Breland recently celebrated her 40th Anniversary serving the Village of Haverstraw and the Town of Haverstraw. With that in mind, the Mayor invited Ms. Breland to come forward at which time the Board presented her with a plaque to honor her years of service.

Marion Breland: Ms. Breland thanked the Board for this unexpected, heartfelt surprise.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor then invited Edward Mandell to come forward with his request.

Edward Mandell, 63 Sickletown Road, West Nyack, NY: Mr. Mandell recently purchased two buildings in the Village and was here to get the Board's feelings about making changes to one of those properties, located at 46-48 Broadway, before he spends a lot of money on architects, etc. He would like to create a professional suite for his own business on the first level behind the retail space, which currently exists but needs internal modification. He would also like to split one large 4 bedroom apartment into 2 apartments that would each include an open living area with kitchen, bathroom and 2 bedrooms. He had renderings to show the Board. He also mentioned that there is sufficient parking in the back of the building.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to refer Mr. Mandell to the Planning Board for review and recommendation of his proposal.

RESOLUTION #134-2013

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez was very pleased to hear that Mr. Mandell had purchased these buildings with the intent of repairing and renovating them, especially the building on Broadway, which is a major roadway in the downtown area.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed the public that New York State has an MS4 program (Municipal Storm Water 4), which mandates that municipalities comply with its requirements for storm water management. One of those requirements is to hold a Public Hearing annually to allow the public to make comments about storm water management to be followed by a report to be filed with the State.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing regarding storm water management.

RESOLUTION #135-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor then opened the floor to the public.

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested the Mayor to go into a little more detail with regard to MS4.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that it is basically how the Village handles the storm water that goes through the Village sewer system (i.e. certain

businesses, such as Haverstraw Transit Bus garage, the DPW garage, have oil/water separators to keep the oil from getting into the storm water system). The Village has started a program to retrofit the catch basin heads to try to limit the amount of garbage that gets into the system, which then flows into the Hudson River. The Village also has requirements for new construction to protect the storm water system along with improved systems to handle excess flow.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired how many storm drains in the Village make their way to the river.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded they all make their way to the river and there are hundreds throughout the Village that all come together into ten outlets that empty into the river.

Sherry Coplon, 58 Main Street: Ms. Coplon suggested the Village try to capture the storm water and not let it flow into the river in anticipation of future needs.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that would entail spending millions of dollars. He did mention that there is a system called the "Grey Water System" that has been explored, but is mostly used by individuals, such as a person using rain barrels to collect water. He stated that new technologies are being developed and will be considered as they are introduced such as the "green driveways", which would allow some of the water to seep into the ground rather than all running into the storm drains.

Sherry Coplon: Ms. Coplon questioned the idea of the "green driveways" not adhering to village codes.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that there is no village code that refers to the "green driveways" and that it is a very expensive undertaking.

With no further comments from the floor, the Mayor entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #136-2013

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood was absent from this meeting.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor announced that the Board has met with neighbors from Broadway and Jefferson Street regarding the problem with dogs in the Greenway Park at that corner. The Mayor will speak with the

Police Department, the Dog Warden and the Village Building Department to address and rectify the problem.

The Mayor received a request from the Bricktown Gospel Fellowship to close Rockland Street on August 31st for their Outreach Program, which was previously scheduled for June, but due to some difficulties with arrangements are rescheduling to August 31st from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above request from Bricktown Gospel Fellowship.

RESOLUTION #137-2013

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a letter from the County of Rockland Public Transportation Department regarding the modification of the bus route for Tour Bus 97. As of July 19th, Tour Bus 97 will be rerouted turning onto Maple Avenue and exiting the Village via the new overpass, which will better accommodate the residents at that end of the Village. The bus hours will remain the same. Updated signs are being installed in the bus shelters and the shelters will be steam cleaned.

The Mayor reported that the Village has received 3 quotes to repair a vehicle that suffered damages from a sinkhole on Hudson Avenue during April of this year. The low bid was received from Doc's Collision in the amount of \$650.28, for labor, parts and other materials.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize repairs as stated above.

RESOLUTION #138-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a petition from 30 residents of West Street to install speed bumps along West Street, as this is a high traffic roadway and is becoming a danger to the residents of this neighborhood.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to have one or more speed bumps placed on West Street, the location and number to be decided by George White, Superintendent of Public Works.

RESOLUTION #139-2013

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

The Mayor announced that the Village has purchased a "Welcome to Haverstraw" sign to be installed at the entrance to Short Clove, heading north on Route 9W at the traffic light. The location of the sign is in the State's right-of-way; therefore, the Village is required to obtain permission from the State for the installation of this sign. A contract has been received from the State requiring the Mayor's signature to allow the Village to install its new sign.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with the State of New York, as stated above.

RESOLUTION #140-2013

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

The Mayor received a request from the “Free Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Committee to hold its annual Back to School Backpack Program. He reported that the committee was able to give approximately 400 filled backpacks to children in our community going back to school last year. They are requesting the use of Emeline Park on Sunday, August 18th, with a rain date of August 25th, from 12:00 to 6:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #141-2013

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Abstention: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a letter from Maria Rodd of the Village Chamber of Commerce requesting approval to hold the annual street fair on Sunday, September 22nd, to close streets and to provide assistance from the DPW throughout the day.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #142-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reminded everyone that the Farmer’s Market continues to be held every Sunday from 9:00 to 1:00 PM on Maple Avenue, adjacent to the Village Hall. He also announced the next “Dancing Under the Stars” will be held on August 23rd.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

**Mayor Kohut:
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

FIRE & ORDINANCES – **Trustee Rafael Bueno:** Trustee Bueno read the following report for the month of June, 2013, submitted by Fire Chief Al Lynch:

Total Alarms	-	15
General Alarms	-	8
Special Calls	-	2
Mutual Aid Calls	-	5
Structure Fires	-	1
Brush Fires	-	1
Dumpster Fires	-	1
Pump Outs	-	1
Extrication Calls	-	1
Boat Calls	-	1
Cooking Fires	-	0

C O Alarms	-	0
Electrical	-	0
Gas Leaks	-	1
Good Intent/Miscellaneous		3
False Alarms	-	2

Total Manpower Responding - 307 members.

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

The Mayor mentioned that the department did a good job with the house fire the previous week.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White, Superintendent of Public Works, as of July 15th, 2013:

- 1) Cleaned Emeline Park.
- 2) Worked on the Jefferson Street playground.
- 3) Prepared Greenway Trail and Jefferson Street Park for fireworks display on July 5th.
- 4) Cut grass at the Short Clove Road overpass.
- 5) Called out to Harbors for pump station that was not working.
- 6) King & Son Construction repaired the cracked sewer line at the Haverstraw Transit Bus Garage.
- 7) Cut grass on Division and Rockland Streets.
- 8) Installing new alternate side of street parking signs on Division Street, Broad Street, West Broad Street and Clinton Street.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez gave the following report of activities at the Community Center:

Summer Day Camp: The Village's 6 week Camp Program began on July 8th with approximately 180 children attending.

On June 17th, several children from the Center volunteered at Haverstraw Place helping the seniors with planting and watering their garden.

On June 18th, the Center celebrated the end of the school year with 17 acts performing in a talent show.

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of June 17th through July 12th, 2013:

Rental registrations	-	3
Municipal searches	-	16
Miscellaneous inspections	-	134
Construction inspections	-	6
Complaints	-	10
Violations & tickets	-	45

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 6th for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above minutes.

RESOLUTION #143-2013

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested an update of the Tilcon property.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that currently Tilcon has no present or future plans for the property in question. He spoke with Mr. Cooney, President of Tilcon New York, recently who informed him that Tilcon has not made any plans for that property.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then questioned whether or not the Zoning Board is granting any Land Use Variances to Tilcon at this time.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that no variances are being granted at this time because there is no proposed use.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired about the Village's responsibility with regard to sink holes.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded the Village is responsible for sinkhole damages because the damage was caused by a Village roadway.

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 #144-2013

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk