

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, August 11th, 2014, beginning at 8:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- Absent
	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.

Marianne Bleeker, 44 Broad Street: Ms. Bleeker approached the Board to complain about the loud music, etc. coming from the New Jerusalem Church adjacent to her property. Ms. Bleeker stated that she is thankful that Americans have religious rights, but she feels that religion should stay inside the Church and not be brought into her living room. She informed the Board that these events occur randomly, starting on the evening of July 4th from 7:30 to 8:30 PM, when the music was audible but not annoying, however, beginning on July 5th, from 7:45 to 9:30 PM there was excessively loud music that was inescapable even in her own home. She gave several other dates and times that this has occurred, mentioning that the music is so loud it rattles the china in her cabinet, and even after shutting her windows and turning on the air conditioner in another room she could still hear the music. She has tried to talk to the Pastor to no avail. Her family has lived in the Village for many years, along with several of her neighbors who she has spoken to about this situation, who also agree with her that the music is piercingly loud. She explained to the Board that she is not upset with the content of the music, but the level of the noise at these hours, the amplification of which would be fitting for an arena. She mentioned this has taken place every summer for the past 10 years and is just getting very disruptive to the neighborhood.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will contact the Pastor to explain the problem to him and try to rectify the situation. He then mentioned that the Church does not have a permit from the Village and technically could be charged, as anyone else, with a noise violation.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post requested the Board speak with the Town Board with regard to holding meetings on different nights to make it possible for residents wishing to, can attend both the Village and Town Board meetings.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez explained to Mr. Post that when the Village Board was scheduling meetings back in May, Monday nights were the best for the majority of the Board members through the summer months.

Mel Post: Mr. Post would still like both boards to discuss this matter and come up with dates that would allow residents to attend both meetings, stating that he would call Supervisor Phillips with the same request.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor agreed somewhat, however, he stated that the Village meetings are scheduled for days when the majority of the Board are available to meet, especially when setting the summer schedule with vacations having to be considered.

With no further input from the public, the Mayor moved forward with the evening's agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING – Amendments to §245-14H of the Village Zoning Code and inclusion of attachments to §45 – 7 & 8.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq., Village Attorney: Counselor Hood presented the following changes to the above stated Village Codes:

- 1) Adopt Part II of the Environmental Assessment Form and declare a Negative Declaration showing there will be no negative effects to the Village.
- 2) There is a discrepancy between consultants and the Zoning and Planning Boards with the word "UNIT" over a commercial site, which specifies there can only be 1 unit above a commercial site. The Village, however, has always allowed more than 1 unit above a commercial site, therefore, the letter "S" will be added to the word "UNIT".
- 3) In the past, multiple units above a commercial site has always been a Village Board decision, which was not a part of the Code, therefore, an * with that information will be added to the Code.
- 4) Trailers used in commercial areas will now be required to have their permits renewed before the Village Board every 2 years, however, the Building Inspector will have to verify whether or not the trailer is safe and conforms with the Codes of the Village, as well as, the Building & Fire Codes of the State of New York.

Counselor Hood mentioned that these changes have been sent to the County and are awaiting their approval.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to adopt and accept a Negative Declaration for SEQRA purposes.

RESOLUTION #187-2014

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #188-2014

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

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the floor to the public for questions or comments.

Arty Taub, 3304 Leewood Drive: Mr. Taub requested clarification of the time frame for trailer permits.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq.: Counselor Hood reiterated that all trailers parked in the central business district are now required to renew their permits every 2 years.

Arty Taub: Mr. Taub inquired if there is a fee involved and if so why it is not collected on a yearly basis.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that these trailers come into the Village for legitimate business purposes and the Village does not want to continuously hit them with a lot of fees. The Mayor also explained that they may be utilizing the trailers while waiting for available space to relocate their business into a building in the downtown and that these events occur randomly, therefore, the Board feels that 2 years is a good timeframe for renewal.

Joel Santana, Halgren Crescent: Mr. Santana inquired if the trailer owner would have to reapply to the Zoning Board or the Village Board after the 2 year period.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that unless there is some change they would not have to go back to the Zoning Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #189-2014

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Zoning Law Section 245.

RESOLUTION #190-2014

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

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor requested the Board to approve the resignation of Any Urena.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the resignation of Any Urena, with regret, and approve the hiring of Mariely Urena to the position of Office Worker, Part Time.

RESOLUTION #191-2014

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

The Mayor received a request from Jose Pedro for a Peddler's Permit to operate "Teenie Weenie Hot Dogs". He mentioned that he would only be able to operate on the streets of the Village not in the downtown business district, unless it is in front of his store on Main Street.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a Peddler's Permit to Jose Pedro as stated above.

RESOLUTION #192-2014

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

The Mayor reported that the Village is still in continuing litigation with the owner over the Harbors Site A condemnation case, which the Village lost at the trial level and has, therefore, moved on with this litigation to the Intermediate Appellate Court level. The Village is now applying to the New York State Court of Appeals to have them hear the Village's appeal to overturn the lower court rulings. It has been suggested to the Board that the Village join the organization known as the International Municipal Lawyer's Association, which is affiliated with the National League of Cities, in order to file an Amicus Brief on the Village's behalf, which they will only do if the Village is a member of the organization. The membership fee is \$480.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to join the International Municipal Lawyer's Association as stated above.

RESOLUTION #193-2014

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

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if the Amicus Brief would be an opinion of the organization and also how much weight their input would actually carry with the Court System.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Amicus Brief is an opinion and the Village of Haverstraw does not carry much weight with the Court of Appeals, however, the Association of Towns and the Conference of Mayors carries a considerable amount of weight, and the International Lawyer's Association carries even more weight, therefore, it might put the Village over the top in getting an appeal heard. The Mayor mentioned that the organization has looked into the Village's appeal and would be willing to sign on.

The Mayor reported that the Village has received a Thank You letter from Meals-On-Wheels for the continuous efforts and monetary donation to help the program to provide essential services throughout the community.

The Mayor received an invitation from Cosgriff Hose Co. #4, who will be hosting the 2014 Annual Rockland County Volunteer Firemen's Convention and Parade on Saturday, September 6th, to join them for the parade and sit on the Reviewing Stand, which will be located on Maple Avenue adjacent to their quarters. The Mayor invited everyone to attend the parade.

The Mayor reported that the County of Rockland has done away with mental health services at their facility in Pomona. He mentioned that mental health services were previously located in satellite facilities throughout the County, who is once again requesting the Village to open a satellite facility 1 or 2 days per week in the Community Center. The Mayor stated that space is available at the Center, and there is a vital need for these services. The Board has agreed to do this and enter into a "Memorandum of Understanding" with the County. This agreement is to be signed by both the Rockland County Health Department and the Village of Haverstraw to work collaboratively to continue

to provide mental health services to members of our community. Rockland County Department of Mental Health (RCDMH) will provide staffing and the Village will provide appropriate office space, at no charge, consistent with Office of Mental Health regulations to RCDMH staff. Treatment will be provided to clients upon completion of outpatient protocols consistent with NYS Office of Mental Health Outpatient Regulations. The client will be responsible for all outpatient charges. The term of the agreement will be for 1 year following the execution of the agreement.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion for the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Rockland as stated above.

RESOLUTION #194-2014

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reported that the Village has received the 2014 Sub-Recipient Agreement for the Community Development Building Grant (CDBG), which includes funding of \$100,000.00 for sidewalk replacement and \$15,000.00 for the Rose Nelson African American Memorial.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept and sign the 2014 Sub-Recipient Agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION #195-2014

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request for Isabel Gonzalez to attend a conference on "Finance for Non-Accounting People" in Saddle Brook, New Jersey on October 8th, at a cost of \$149.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve Isabel Gonzalez to attend a conference as stated above.

RESOLUTION #196-2014

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reported that the Village is required to accept and sign-off on the 2014 DMI grant contract with the County of Rockland in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2014 DMI grant as stated above.

RESOLUTION #197-2014

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then reported that the Village is also required to accept and sign-off on the 2014 Project SHIFT Grant Contract with the County of Rockland in the amount of \$24,850.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the 2014 Project SHIFT Grant as stated above.

RESOLUTION #198-2014

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

The Mayor previously requested the first meeting of September to be switched to Wednesday, September 3rd due to the Monday holiday, however the Board room will be utilized that night for Court, therefore he is requesting the meeting be held on Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to move the first meeting for the month of September to Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:00 PM as stated above.

RESOLUTION #199-2014

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

The Mayor announced that the Church of Christ located at 169 Route 9W will be hosting a FREE car wash in their parking lot on Saturday, August 16th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM as a part of their "Meet & Greet" activity.

The Mayor then announced the next "Dancing Under the Stars" will be held on Friday, August 22nd in front of the Village Hall. He invited everyone to come and enjoy the Salsa/Meringué night.

The Mayor also announced the Haverstraw RiverArts Committee will be holding their first combined music and art sculpture festival and exhibition on Saturday, September 20th at Emeline Park from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. There will be four bands performing throughout the day along with high school musicians during band breaks. There will also be a professional sculpting contest, along with a high school team creating sculptures throughout the day. "Keep Rockland Beautiful" will be picking up debris along the river, which will be utilized as part of the sculptures to be made that day. Food and craft vendors will be on site, as well as a kids table and entertainment. On behalf of the Village, for all the efforts the Committee is putting into this first of many events to come, the Mayor requested the Board to make a \$1,000.00 donation towards the success of this annual event.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to make a donation to the Haverstraw RiverArts Festival as stated above.

RESOLUTION #200-2014

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

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 July, 2014, submitted by Fire Chief Al Lynch:

Total Alarms	-	24
General Alarms	-	15
Special Calls	-	5
Mutual Aid Calls	-	4
Structure Fires	-	0
Cooking Fires	-	4
Vehicle Fires	-	2
Extrication Calls	-	1
Boat Calls	-	2
Gas Leaks	-	2
Electrical	-	1
Assist Police Dept.	-	1
Good Intent /Misc.	-	5
False Alarms	-	2

Total Manpower Responding - 502 members

Trustee Bueno had nothing further 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 August 11th, 2014:

- 1) Cut grass and did maintenance to Short Clove Road overpass.
- 2) Constructed Village of Haverstraw “Gateway” sign on Short Clove Road.
- 3) Provided training to laborers on obtaining C.D.L. license to drive heavy trucks and equipment.
- 4) Painted and treated back door steps on Brick Museum.
- 5) Fixed guardrail roping and wire fence at Harbors Promenade.
- 6) DPW staff helped set up for Latin Festival, and with clean-up throughout the day.
- 7) All DPW trucks to receive their yearly vehicle inspections.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that the Latin Festival was once again a very successful event and photos from the event were put together by Corinne McGeorge, from the Brick Museum, and were on display in the back of the Board Room.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista: In the absence of Trustee Batista, the Mayor gave the following brief report of activities at the Community Center for the period of July 10th through August 7th, 2014:

- 1) Summer Camp would be ending on Friday, August 15th.
- 2) All other programs continue as scheduled.

There was nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez had nothing to report, however, she did mention that the Farmer’s Market is open every Sunday from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM and that additional

vendors have signed on. She also mentioned that there will be a Holiday Festival at the market on October 12th.

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mel Post: Mr. Post mentioned that the new sign at Short Clove Road is beautiful. He then requested the Board to visit the Harbors inlet area, specifically the kayak launch area where there are no railings or gates to keep people out. He has seen children playing in the area which creates a dangerous situation that he feels needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor will see that the proper action is taken to avoid anyone from getting hurt in that area.

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

RESOLUTION #201-2014

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk