

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, May 18th, 2015, at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- Present
	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Vacation
	Mayor Kohut	- Present

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the meeting with the first Public Participation inviting the public to ask questions or make comments.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post requested an update on the negotiations with GDC.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that the Village has signed an "Interim Agreement" with all parties which will last for 1 year starting April 30, 2015, by which time a full term negotiation should be in place. The Interim Agreement calls for Mr. Ginsberg to pay the first 2 years of principal and interest on the \$6.5M, amounting to approximately \$1M to cover the 2015/2016 payments. The Village should have a "Long Term Agreement" by next April or either side is free to go into litigation for the balance.

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested a copy of the Agreement and asked that the Mayor explain further what is actually in the Agreement about new construction going forward.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that as a part of the Agreement, the Village would cooperate by allowing the other phases of the waterfront and Site B to be developed and would assist GDC with IDA benefits and changes in regulations regarding JRSB. The Village is not, however, granting GDC anything additional.

Mayor Kohut: With no further input from the public, the Mayor announced a Public Hearing with regard to amending the "Partial Tax Exemption Schedule" as it relates to persons with limited income. He requested the Village Attorney, Jay Hood, Jr. to address the public, who in turn, requested the Village Clerk, Judith Curcio to explain this amendment.

Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio informed the Public that this amendment is to bring the "Senior Exemption Salary Schedule" up to date with what New York State and the Town of Haverstraw allows. The Village maximum is currently \$34,399.99 which will be raised to \$37,399.99.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #99-2015

Motion by: Terrence Watson, Jr.
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

With no input from the public, the Mayor entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #100-2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Terrence Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut then entertained a motion to pass the amendment to the tax exemption schedule as stated above.

RESOLUTION #101-2015

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood reported that changes need to be made to the Taxi Law §218, including removing everything referring to the Village of Haverstraw Police Department since they no longer exist and replacing necessary Village Police references with the Town of Haverstraw Police Department, including phone numbers, stating that a Public Hearing has been scheduled for June 15th at 7:05 PM.

Counselor Hood then reported that he is in the process of making changes to the Zoning Code with regard to habitable spaces in properties, especially those in basements. He mentioned that he is currently in touch with Dennis Michaels regarding this change, adding he will also have to contact the State regarding SEQRA and, depending on the time frame involved with these outside entities, he is hopeful to have documents ready for the June or July meeting at the latest.

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio mentioned that the tax bills are being prepared for mailing. She had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor requested approval for the Village to contribute \$1,500.00 to the United Latin Festival by taking out a Journal Ad.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a contribution to the United Latin Festival as stated above.

RESOLUTION #102-2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from Alexander Jimenez of Middle Street for 2 "speed bumps" to be installed on Middle Street to cut down on the cars and motorcycles racing through the area.

The Mayor reported that "speed bumps" have already been approved for placement on Middle Street they just have not been installed yet.

The Mayor received a request from Ana Rojas of Haverstraw Soccer United to help them buy some equipment and also assist with their need for a porta-potty on the premises since they have no access to a bathroom in the area. Trustee Batista will contact Ms. Rojas.

The Mayor received a request for a "5 MINUTE PARKING" sign on New Main Street. He mentioned that there is already a "5 MINUTE PARKING" sign on New Main Street along with loading zone signage, police parking, etc. He feels this would be too many signs on the downtown section of New Main Street and would take away from metered parking spots.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista agrees that there are already too many signs in this location, but stated that La Rubia could revert back to the Board that others have been approved for signage.

The Mayor feels that people could park in the other spots and walk to the bodega to get their food. There was some discussion amongst the Board and it was decided to revisit the signage issue in conjunction with the Streetscape, however, the Board members were all in agreement that there are currently too many signs, which is restricting normal parking use on New Main Street.

The Mayor then requested the Board's approval for the Mayor to sign an agreement with the County of Rockland Department of Mental Health to continue their operations as a satellite network at the Haverstraw Center.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve his signing of the above stated agreement.

RESOLUTION #103-2015

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor mentioned the Village received a "Thank You" letter from the North Rockland School District regarding the exceptional handling of snow removal and road safety by the Village DPW, which he read in full. The letter also mentioned that the Board of Education would like to recognize the DPW staff at their Board Meeting on August 4th, 7:30 PM at the High School. The Village Clerk will advise George White, Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, to inform his staff of this recognition and sign up any staff members wishing to attend.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno submitted the following application for admittance to the Haverstraw Fire Department:

Gonzalo Manuel Gonzalez - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5

The application is complete and duly notarized.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept Mr. Gonzalez into Lady Warren Hose Co. and the Haverstraw Fire Department.

RESOLUTION #104-2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Terrence Watson, Jr.

Motion Carries: All

Trustee Bueno then read the following report for the month of April, 2015, submitted by Fire Chief Robert Drexler:

Total Alarms	-	7
General Alarms	-	3
Special Calls	-	4
Mutual Aid Calls	-	0
Structure Fires	-	0
Cooking Fires	-	1
Brush/Rubbish Fires	-	1
Electrical Fires	-	1
Good Intent /Misc.	-	1
False Alarms	-	1

Total Manpower Responding - 137 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 May 18th, 2015:

- 1) Continue to fill potholes throughout the Village.
- 2) Started preparing 16 Front Street for the grand opening of the new restaurant on May 18th.
- 3) Cut grass at the Short Clove overpass.
- 4) Started working on the Gateway entrance water fountain on New Main Street.
- 5) Installed various signs throughout the Village.
- 6) Worked with TAM Enterprises on cleaning of Warren Avenue, Harbors, Riverside Avenue and 16 Front Street Pump Station.
- 7) Continued preparing the ball field for the new season.
- 8) Continue providing assistance to Orange & Rockland with the installation of new utility poles whenever necessary.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista:

Trustee Batista gave the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of May 1st thru May 18th, 2015:

- 1) Tim Sanders, along with 17 youth volunteers, participated in the 2015 Riverkeeper Sweep on May 9th. The Riverkeeper Sweep is the signature New York event in the Waterkeeper Alliance Splash Series. The volunteers helped clean up the shoreline along Emeline Park.
- 2) The Haverstraw Collaborative met on May 6th.
- 3) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group also met on May 6th.

- 4) The “END OF THE YEAR” celebration is scheduled to take place on June 5th, including volunteer recognition and the monthly youth celebration, followed at 5:00 PM with food being served and fun family activities, all at no cost to the attendees.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Due to the absence of Trustee Dominguez no report was given.

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor mentioned that scenes for a new Steven Spielberg movie will be filmed in the Village, along with possible use of Village Hall for costume changes, etc.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired about the Village charging for filming companies to be here and the possibility of making a substantial amount of money in doing so.

Judith Curcio, Clerk/Treasurer: Ms. Curcio stated that the Village does not charge any permit fees for filming a movie within the Village. She also mentioned that part of the reason movie companies are starting to come to the Village is because Nyack is pricing themselves out of the market with their exorbitant fees. The Village is trying to be as accommodating as possible to keep filmmakers coming back to the Village. Eventually the Village will be able to discuss permit fees, etc., however this filmmaker has already stated that they will make some kind of donation to the Village for allowing them to film and use the Village Hall.

Mel Post: Mr. Post is under the impression that these movie companies pay significant fees to municipalities so charging them a permit fee would be something so insignificant to them they would be willing to pay it. He then reminded the Board that a movie company filmed at Harbors, using a considerable part of the Harbors development, including the Social Club, the basketball court, individual condos whose owners were reimbursed, the entire swimming pool area and other places throughout Harbors. He did not remember the amount they were reimbursed.

Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio asked Mr. Post to find out the amount they were given in order for the Village to have a figure to base future fees on. She then informed Mr. Post that her understanding is that Nyack is charging upwards of \$10,000.00 which has some in the film industry looking elsewhere for locations.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor remarked that the movie companies may also be using private properties and reimbursing property owners, also mentioning that different companies or different types of movies may have a need for police

presence. Also, there are different circumstances surrounding each movie, along with filming budgets, etc., which all have to be taken into consideration for each individual production.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired if the Board has had any further conversations with John Cooney of Tilcon.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that he has not heard anything more from Mr. Cooney, however, he reminded the public that Tilcon is now under restrictions from the DEC with a timeline in place for corrective action.

Mel Post: Mr. Post feels Tilcon is not complying with any restrictions because it continues to appear that the piles are increasing in size and trucks continue to dump on the big pile. He again mentioned how dusty everything is on dry days and he has not seen the piles being watered.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor has not seen trucks on the big pile either but stated that Tilcon is under a DEC obligation, so it is up to them how it gets handled.

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

RESOLUTION #105-2015

Motion by: Terrence Watson, Jr.
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk